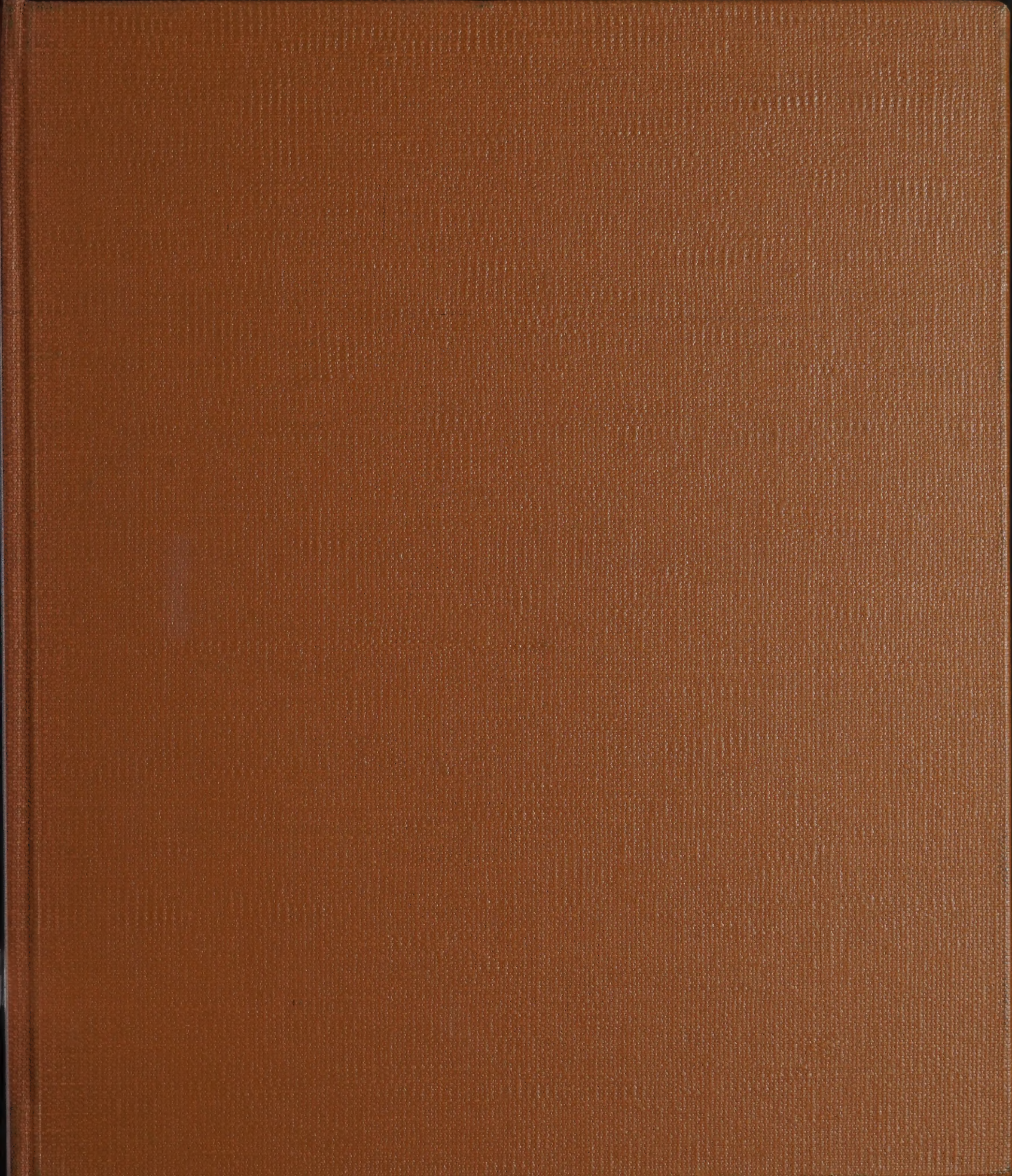




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EARTH IN THAT PORTION
OF THE VINEYARD
WHICH FOR ONE HUNDRED
YEARS HAS BEEN THE
DIOCESE OF GALVESTON, *Texas*

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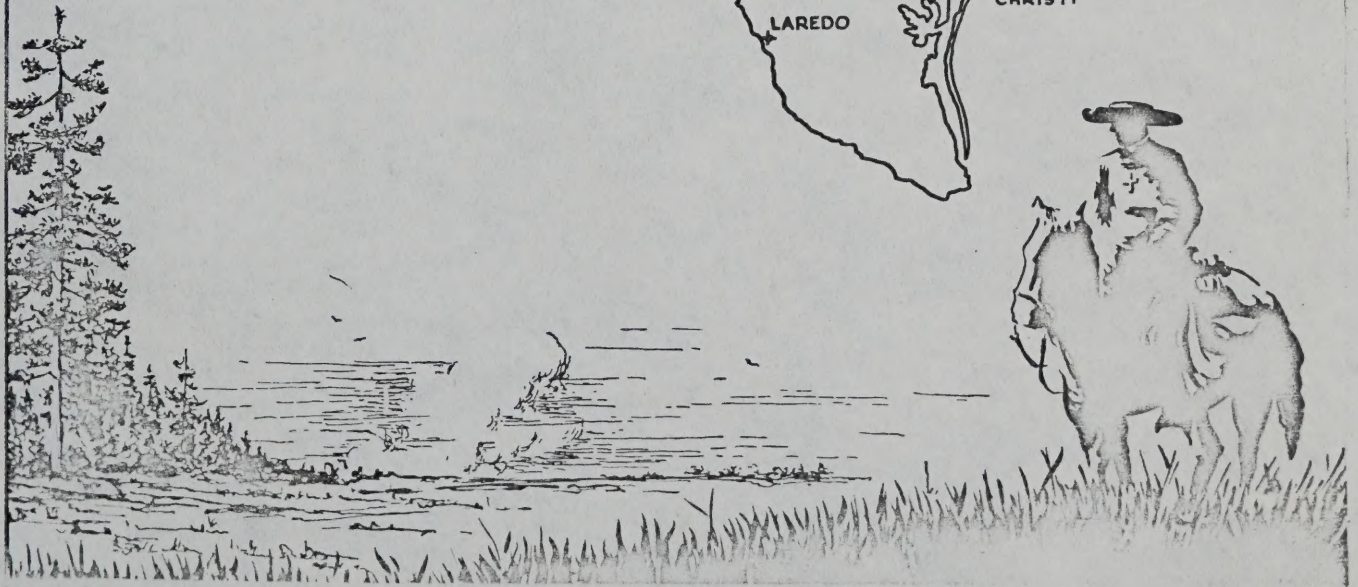
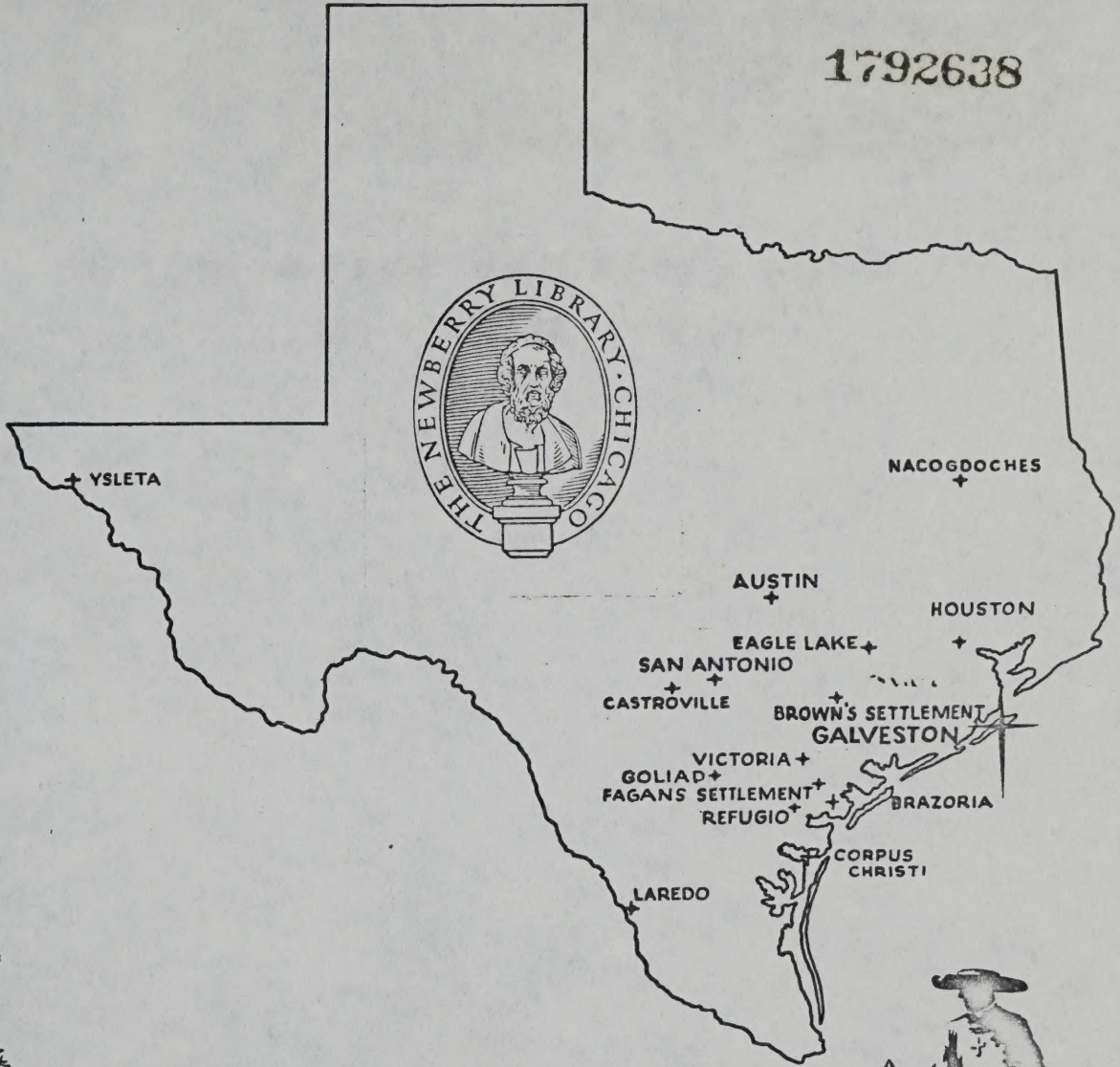
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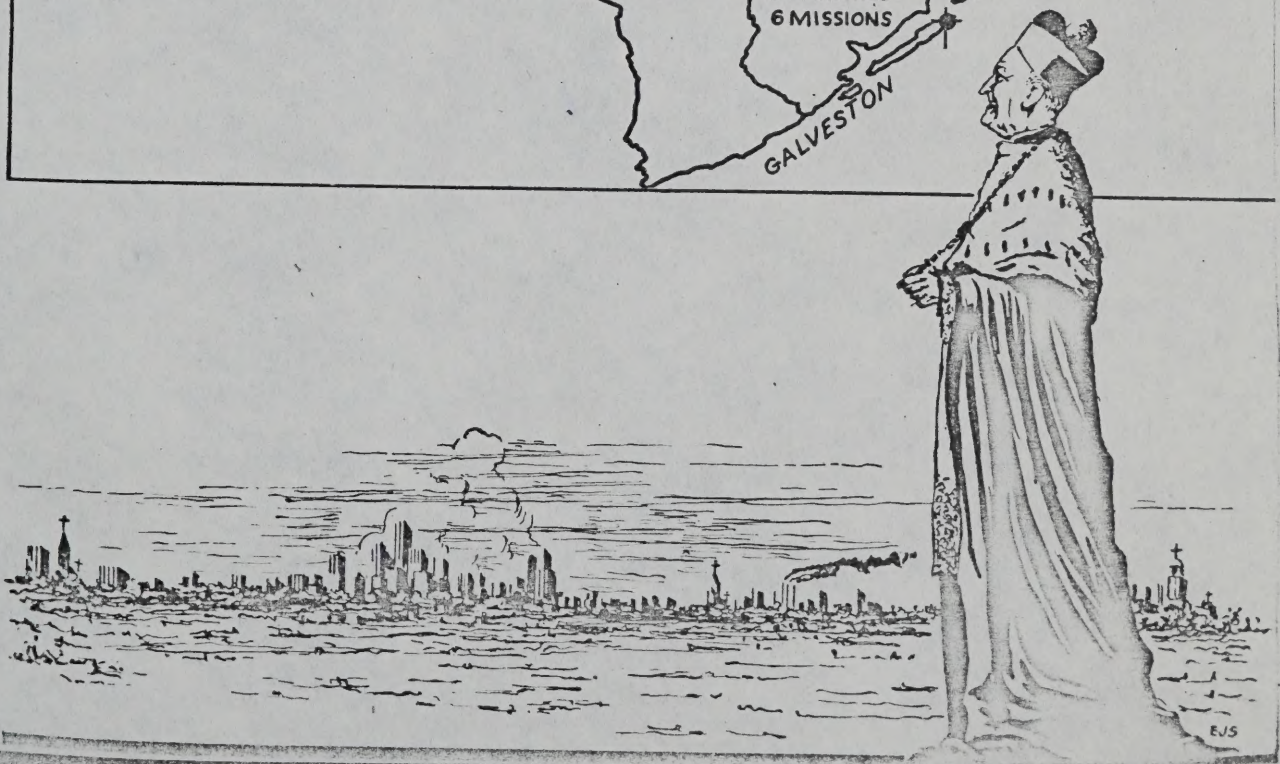
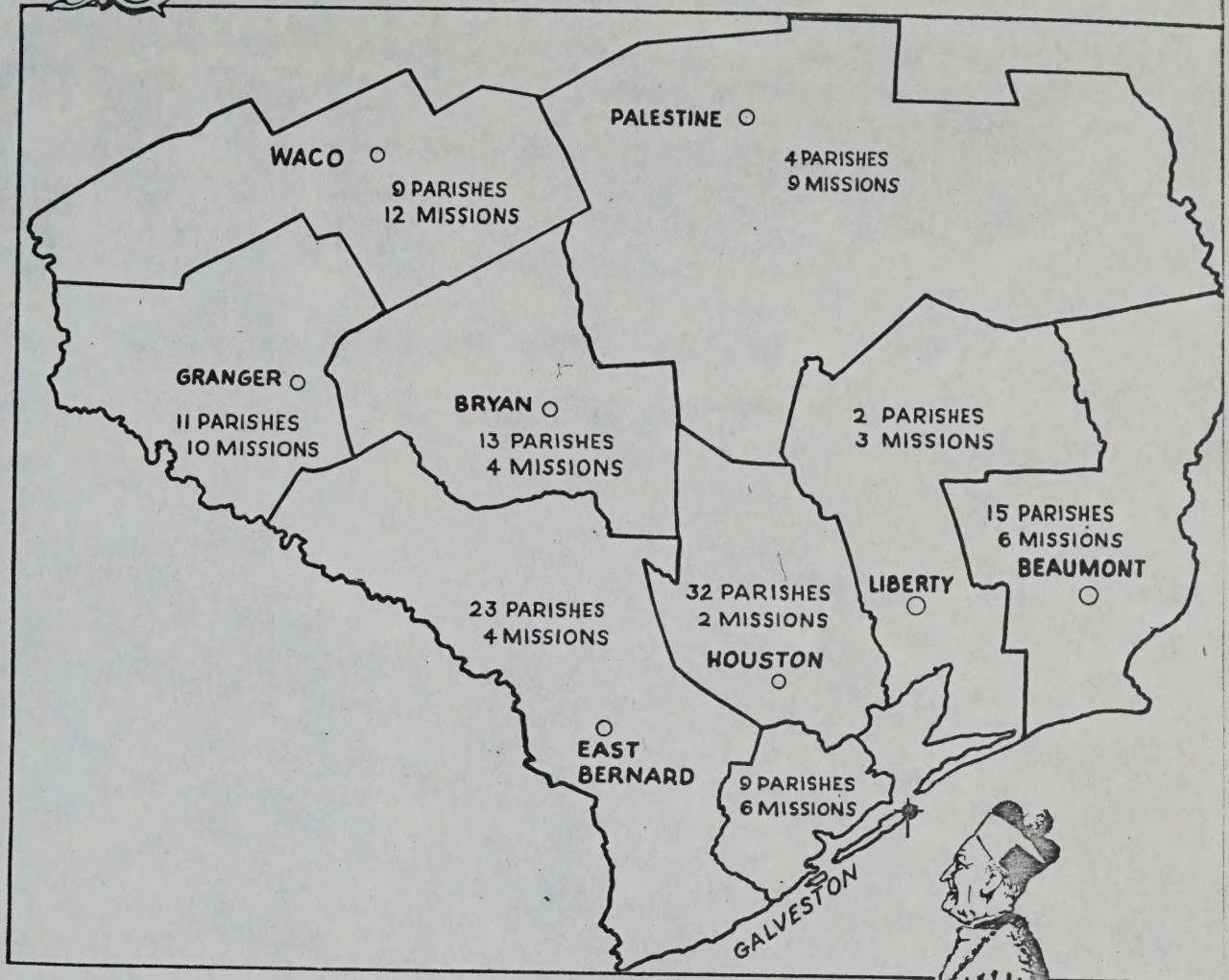
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+ CHRISTOPHER E. BYRNE,
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GALVESTON,

April 15, 1947.



Paul pp. 28

*To the Most Reverend Christopher
Edward Byrne, for twenty-eight years
the zealous and devoted Bishop of
Galveston, this volume is dedicated
by its compilers.*

THE CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION



THE MOST REVEREND
AMLETO G. CICOGNANI
ARCHBISHOP OF LAODICEA
APOSTOLIC DELEGATE



THE MOST REVEREND
ROBERT E. LUCEY, D. D.
ARCHBISHOP OF SAN ANTONIO
METROPOLITAN OF THE PROVINCE OF SAN ANTONIO

FOREWORD



O MAN is without great honor, nor left without distinguished privilege, who has the task of closing a century of religious work, anywhere in the world.

But the honor and the privilege abound the more when the century had a very small beginning of such work, yet the hundred-fold multiplied as the months went on to make the five score years.

Such exaltation and satisfaction seem to pour out of the pages of St. Luke's *Acts of the Apostles*. His Gospel told "of all things which Jesus began to do and to teach." But now he envisions the coming of the Holy Ghost at Pentecost, the great sermon of Peter in the streets of Jerusalem, and its result; the striking down of Paul on the way to Damascus, and the wonderful call that followed from that.

So in this Centennial celebration we have a record of heroism, endurance, sacrifice and zeal, of blessings coming to a multitude because of the practice of those virtues by a faithful few who never failed in hope.

This story of one hundred years of Catholic life in all of Texas and especially in the Mother Diocese of Galveston, reflects the glory of the pioneers, clerical and lay; gives to us an irresistible reason to thank God; and leaves before us an example that cannot but draw out our highest and noblest Christian effort to promote God's rule in the hearts of men, and God's peace in the assembly of nations.

+ C. E. BYRNE, D.D.

Bishop of Galveston.

IN APPRECIATION



THE COMPILATION of the history of the Diocese of Galveston has been a labor of love and a source of inspiration to those who have been associated in the task. The story of the superhuman and supernatural efforts of the pioneers and the resultant steady growth and the present flourishing condition of the Diocese will give us all renewed zeal and encouragement to further the work in this vineyard in our part of its second century.

It is most difficult to give full appreciation to the many who have aided in the compilation of the book and if any are not mentioned herein, the omission is without deliberate intent but through human inability to recall everyone who has done his or her share.

Above all, the encouragement and support of the Bishop of the Diocese, the Most Reverend Christopher E. Byrne, D.D., have furnished the enthusiasm which brought about whatever success this work may have. The Most Reverend Laurence J. FitzSimon, D.D., Bishop of Amarillo, whose library of Texiana is one of the most comprehensive in this area, has been most helpful with advice and the loan of historical material. And without the co-operation of the pastors of the Diocese in assembling and submitting pictures and histories of their parishes and similar assistance from the various religious superiors in providing the data for their institutions, this book would have been an impossibility.

To the members of the Catholic Youth Organization who have contributed their time and effort to the work, much credit is due. Without their efforts the editor would indeed have been helpless in the task assigned him.

The assistance of the Chancellor, the Right Reverend L. J. Reicher, P.A., and Miss Irene

Rickert of the Chancery Office has been of inestimable value.

The kindness of the Reverend John J. Roach, Diocesan Director of Charities, in extending the use of his office as a center for this work has been a real source of encouragement and assistance.

To Dr. Carlos E. Castaneda of Austin, who so generously wrote and contributed the scholarly article on the missionary years that so fittingly leads this panorama of our diocesan history, we are particularly grateful.

Mr. Herbert Fletcher, publisher, has given in large measure of his technical experience and facile knowledge of regional history.

The art work which has contributed so much to the appearance of the book is the work of Edison Saccomanno of the Catholic Youth Organization, who has given generously of his time and talent in this field.

The presence of the patrons and advertisers in this book made it possible on its present scale. To them we are grateful.

We beg the blessing of God on all, bishops, priests and people, who have in any way aided in the completion of this work. Whatever of error is in it may be traced not to deliberation but to human frailty. Our predecessors, whose selfless devotion made history, seldom paused to write or mention their valorous spiritual and material achievements and these modest threads of history are difficult to recapture.

That the story in these pages may lead us to even greater accomplishments in the second century now beginning is our hope and prayer. Having had a part in tangibly concluding the story of the first century has been an inestimable privilege.

THE REV. JOHN F. LANE
*Assistant District Director,
Catholic Youth Organization*

Feast of St. Joseph,
March 19, 1947.



THE MOST REVEREND
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BISHOP OF GALVESTON
ASSISTANT AT THE PONTIFICAL THRONE

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To these patrons the Catholic Youth Organization, Houston District, expresses its thanks for honoring this book and the organization by their assistance. It will be through the continued interest and encouragement of priests and people throughout the diocese that the CYO will achieve its purpose of aiding the youth of the district and diocese in their spiritual, social and recreational development.

The Catholic Youth Organization, Houston District was established at the direction of the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, Bishop of the Diocese, in 1937, with the Reverend Joseph Coll as Director. In 1939 Father Arthur Crann became Director and built the work into a flourishing organization. In 1942 Father M. J. Daly became District Director, with Fathers Ralph Diefenbach and John F. Lane as Assistant Directors. Father Diefenbach later went into the service. At the present time Father Daly is the spiritual director, Father Lane the assistant spiritual director, Mr. Albert

Johnson recreational director and Mrs. E. L. Wohlfahrt, social director.

CYO clubs are functioning in fourteen parishes of the district and each parish has two voting delegates for the quarterly District meetings. District functions include two day city-wide retreats in preparation for Christmas and Easter, an annual series of radio programs during Lent, discussion groups, annual dances and get-together lectures, a sports program embracing softball, football, bowling and basketball. Following the mind of the Church the Catholic Youth Organization believes not only in a "sound mind in a sound body" but, first and foremost "a clean soul and a good conscience."

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FATHER MARGIL

The Missionary Years in Texas

By CARLOS E. CASTANEDA, K. H. S.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS



THE DEEP concern of the Sacred Congregation of Propaganda Fide and the tender solicitude of His Holiness Pope Pius IX for the spiritual welfare of the faithful in the practically unshepherded wilderness of Texas welcomed the recommendation of the Sixth Provincial Council of Baltimore to erect the new state into a Diocese. The pontifical bulls, *In Apostolicae Sedis Fastigio*, were duly signed and sealed in Rome on May 4, 1847, erecting Texas into a bishopric and naming the Most Reverend John Mary Odin, Vicar Apostolic at the time, its first Bishop, with the city of Galveston as the See. The zealous vicar did not receive official notice of his appointment until July 21.

There was nothing spectacular about the act. It was the simple recognition of an accomplished fact. In another sense, however, it was the culmination of more than four hundred years of missionary endeavor, of untold suffering and sacrifices by many brave soldiers of Christ, who labored with ardent love to plant deep in the soil the seeds of Christianity.

Through the years, hundreds had penetrated the distant wilderness in their endeavor to take the words of Him who died for the redemption of man to the farthest corners of the earth. Scarcely had the conversion of the peoples of the New World begun, before the precious blood of martyrs was generously shed on the soil of Texas.

Let us draw back the curtain of time and see the procession of the pioneers of the Cross in this land blessed by the blood of martyrs. It was a cold, wintry day in November, 1528, when the remnants of the proud expedition of Panfilo de Narvaes, Adelantado, Governor, and Captain General of Florida, were dashed upon the Texas coast near Galveston. Narvaez's grant extended from the Rio de las Palmas (possibly the Rio Grande) to present Florida.

By a strange coincidence, among the survivors

who reached the shore was the saintly Fray Juan Suarez, a humble Franciscan, one of the first twelve who went to Mexico in 1524 to undertake the evangelization of the natives. There he had labored with fervor in the vicinity of Puebla and had been elected guardian of the old convent of Huexotzingo. When Narvaez undertook the colonization of Florida and the conversion of the natives, he requested that Fray Juan, whom he had met while in Mexico, be made bishop of the new lands. The king of Spain immediately recommended his appointment to Rome.

There being no time to wait for consecration, the bishop-elect decided to abandon the relative security of the convent of Huexotzingo to brave the dangers of the unexplored wilds in the hope of preaching the true Gospel to the children of the forest. He has the distinction of being the first member of the hierarchy to exercise jurisdiction within the present limits of the United States.

The zealous missionary and bishop perished of hunger and exposure during the winter of 1528, not far from the future See of the first bishopric of Texas, at the entrance to Copano Bay, probably on present Live Oak Point. Only one survivor remained to tell the story next spring. The intensity of the faith and devotion of the bishop-elect and his companions may be judged by the words of Cabeza de Vaca, who wrote in his memoirs regarding their sufferings: "In all that trouble, our only relief and consolation was to remember the passion of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and the blood He shed for us, and to ponder how much greater His sufferings had been than those we were then enduring."

Across the years we come to another bleak November day in 1544. In the Texas Panhandle, probably on the banks of the South Canadian, well within the first Diocese erected over four hundred years later, and almost eight hundred miles inland from where Fray Juan Suarez and his companions died, another faithful servant of

the Lord gave up his life and became the first martyr of the Southwest. This was Fray Juan de Padilla. To the eastern edge of the Great Plains he had gone from Cicuye, after Coronado returned to Mexico. He had been a soldier of the king and had fought in his native Andalucia against the Moors. He had then joined the humble Franciscans, consumed by an ardent desire to help spread the faith in the New World. Like Fray Juan Suarez, he had labored in Mexico and learned to love the Indians, for whom he, too, gave up the security and comfort of the guardianship of the Convent of Zapotlan to accompany Francisco Vazquez de Coronado to the fabled Quivira. Spurred by his deep solicitude for the untutored natives of the unexplored lands, he traveled from Culiacan on the Pacific to the Pueblos of New Mexico, accompanied Tovar to Moqui, visited Pecos and Taos, and went with Coronado across the Great Plains of Texas in search of Quivira on foot.

The Pueblo Indians completely won his heart. When Coronado, disillusioned, decided to return to Mexico in 1542, the brave friar resolutely declared that he would stay; that he could not abandon his new children; that he could not leave his neophytes to relapse into barbarism.

The saintly Padilla worked incessantly among the Pueblo Indians for two years. But his heart bled for those beyond the plains. Against the advice of his friends, he set out to visit the Indians beyond Quivira. The day after he started in quest for new souls to save, on November 30, 1544, he met a large band of Indians on the war-path at the edge of the plains. His first thought was not for his safety but for that of his three companions—a Portuguese soldier and two Indian lads. He pleaded with them to run and leave him. The chronicler records how, as the thundering horde of maddened Indians approached, "the blessed father, kneeling down, offered up his life, which he gladly sacrificed for the winning of souls to God, attaining the ardent longing of his soul, the joy of being killed by the arrows of the barbarous Indians, who threw him into a pit, covering the body with innumerable stones." Thus perished the first martyr of the Southwest within the limits of the future diocese of Galveston.

Almost a century later, a strange call came from the heart of Texas. It was a warm July day in 1629 when the astounded missionaries at Isleta, New Mexico, saw a large delegation of Jumano Indians come to the convent. They came to request teachers to instruct them in our holy faith. Never before had natives come from their distant haunts to solicit instruction and request baptism. Asked why they had come on this strange errand, they told in simple words the story of the *Lady in Blue*. For more than a year, they declared, their people in East Texas had been visited at regular intervals by a beautiful lady who came among them wearing a blue habit, and who taught them in their own language. On various occasions she had urged them to go to the land of the Spaniards in search of missionaries to preach to them and to baptize them. She had commanded them to carry out her request and reproached them for their negligence.

The memory of the blessed visitor lingered long in the mind of the Tejas Indians. Their chief told Father Massanet in 1689 how his people had seen the *Lady in Blue*. "In times past," declared the now partially blinded chief, "we were visited by a very beautiful woman, who used to come down from the hills, dressed in blue garments." When asked how long ago, the chief explained it had been before his time, but that his mother, who was aged, had seen the woman with her own eyes, as had also the rest of the people.

Who was the *Lady in Blue*, who miraculously visited the people of far away Texas to teach them with love and kindness to seek the truth? Rumors of the strange apparition reached the archbishop of Mexico at the time, and he ordered an investigation.

Fray Alonso de Benavides, former *custodio* of New Mexico, while visiting in Spain in 1631, heard from the lips of Abbess Maria de Agreda the story of her visitations to the distant lands while in a state of ecstatic contemplation. "It seemed to her," she declared under obedience, "that she found herself in a different place and clime, among a people whose nature and disposition had been made known to her in an abstract manner. They were Indians, and it seemed to her that she saw them with her material senses

and felt the difference of the clime . . . While in this condition the Lord commanded her to speak and, preaching to them of her faith, it seemed to her that she was doing it in her own language, Spanish, and that the Indians understood her as if she were speaking in theirs."

Divine Providence thus seems to have singled out Texas as a field for missionary endeavor. The visit of the *Lady in Blue* and her message led to a series of expeditions that brought about the establishment of missions in numerous places within the present limits of the state.

From New Mexico came Fathers Juan Salas and Diego Lopez in answer to the call of the Jumanos in 1629-32. They penetrated to the upper waters of the Colorado. With a portable organ, these zealous missionaries made the wilderness ring for the first time to the music of Christian hymns in praise of the Lord.

Another group of Franciscans made their way into Texas from Coahuila, led by Father Fray Juan Larios in 1673. For two years he labored in company with Fray Manuel de la Cruz, Fray Francisco Penasco, and Fray Diego de San Buenaventura. Across the Rio Grande they marched until they reached the upper waters of the Nueces in Edwards County, where on May 16, 1674, Father Larios said Mass on a portable altar for the first time in this area.

In 1671, Father Fray Garcia de San Buenaventura had visited the district in the vicinity of present Presidio. Here lived another group of Indians who, like the Jumanos, had long desired to be instructed in the tenets of Christianity. A short distance from the confluence of the Mexican Conchos and the Rio Grande, Father San Francisco said Mass for the Indians, who reported the incident vividly twelve years later to Father Nicolas Lopez, *custodio* of New Mexico, who entered the district again in 1683 and established four missions, one of them near present Ruidosa.

In 1684, Father Lopez penetrated Texas from La Junta to the Pecos River, visited the Jumanos and their friends in the vicinity, and went on to the headwaters of the Texas Conchos, where he established a temporary mission called San Clemente, near present San Angelo. With his companions he spent almost a year in central west

Texas and found evidence of French activity in this area almost a year before La Salle established his Fort St. Louis on Garcitas Creek.

With La Salle there came to the Gulf Coast region two Sulpicians: M. Cavelier, brother of La Salle, and Chefdeville; and three Franciscans: Zenobius Membre, Maximus Leclercq, and Anastacius Douay, who for almost two years ministered to the French settlers and to the Tejas Indians.

In search of the intruders, the king of Spain sent repeated expeditions. One of these, commanded by Captain Alonso de Leon, penetrated to east Texas in 1689. Father Damian Massanet, the father of the east Texas missions, came with him. He blessed the first temporary church to be erected in this region on June 1, 1689, and sang the first High Mass before a large concourse of Assinay Indians. Fathers Francisco Hidalgo, Miguel Fontcuberta, Antonio Bordoy, and Francisco de Jesus Maria Casanas came at this time also. Father Fontcuberta, a man of exemplary piety, died practically a martyr before the east Texas missions were abandoned in 1694. Father Casanas has left us the best account of the early missionary efforts among these Indians, being the first to describe the organization of the Assinay Confederacy. Father Hidalgo became so attached to his beloved Tejas, that when the missions were abandoned, he waited for more than twenty years in northern Coahuila to return and lead the expedition that established permanent missions in Texas in 1716.

The work of these pioneers began to bear fruit. By 1731 a permanent Spanish settlement has been established in San Antonio, where the oldest parish church in the state was built. At El Paso a group of missions had sprung up since the Pueblo revolt of 1680; at La Junta, too, a cluster of missions was in operation; on the coast at La Bahia, a garrison and a mission had been founded; and at Los Adaes in east Texas, a fort had been constructed, a garrison placed, and a group of missions established between the Sabine and the Neches. In the years that followed, more missions were founded, Refugio being the last to be undertaken in 1793.

The blood of martyrs was shed as generously

in Texas in the XVIII century as in the early days of the first conversions. The first of these fell pierced by an arrow in the San Xavier Mission on May 11, 1752. Fathers Fray Miguel Pinilla and Fray Joseph Ganzabal had just seated themselves at a rustic table in Candelaria Mission with an unfortunate guest. The summer stillness of the night was suddenly broken by the loud reports of shots. Father Ganzabal rushed to the door. A gentle swish rent the air, the friar swayed and fell, pierced by an arrow that found its way to his heart. A renegade Indian had shot his best friend.

Two others fell victims of their zeal to save souls in 1758. The Comanches felt bitter about the establishment of Mission San Saba as a refuge for their enemies, the Apaches. March 16 dawned bright with the promise of spring. Father Fray Alonso Giraldo de Terreros had just finished saying Mass in the chapel and Father Fray Jose Santiesteban had just begun his Mass when the dreaded enemy swept down upon the mission. Fray Giraldo walked out on the grounds to try to calm the furious savages. As he approached the gate, he was treacherously shot, his head cut off, and thrown about as a ball. The half-crazed Indians swarmed into the chapel. Fray Santiesteban, who had just finished his Mass, humbly knelt before the altar in prayer as a Comanche, wielding an enormous sabre, beheaded him with one mighty blow.

In 1794 most of the missions were secularized and turned over to the ordinary in Monterrey. Texas had originally been under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Guadalajara, later under that of Durango, and lastly under the bishopric of Monterrey. The establishment of independence from Spain brought about a disruption in the ecclesiastical administration, which became more complicated with the subsequent independence from Mexico and the establishment of the Republic of Texas. Thousands of immigrants had come from different parts of the United States, from Ireland, and from Europe itself. The land where so many martyrs had generously shed their blood, where the saintly Antonio Margil de Jesus had labored so long and so lovingly, leaving as the most eloquent monument of his work the incom-

parable Mission of San Jose, was now almost shepherdless. This was the situation that had filled the Sacred Congregation of Propaganda Fide with deep concern since 1838 and had aroused the tender solicitude of Pope Pius IX.

As early as 1840 the Sacred Congregation had constituted the Republic of Texas into a prefecture apostolic, with the Very Reverend John Timon, C. M., as prefect apostolic. He in turn had appointed the Very Reverend John Mary Odin, vice-prefect. No better choice could have been made. To these two sacrificing and zealous missionaries Texas owes much.

For twenty years Father Odin was to play a distinctive part in the upbuilding of the Church in Texas. Born in France on February 25, 1800, he very early gave evidence of his vocation. While a student at the grand seminary of St. Sulpice in Lyons in 1816, he heard the story of the Louisiana missions from Bishop Dubourg, and his imagination was fired with the desire to work for the glory of God in this distant land. In 1822, while only a subdeacon, he volunteered for missionary service. Living among the sons of St. Vincent in Missouri, he soon entered the novitiate and on May 4, 1823, he was elevated to the priesthood in the Cathedral of St. Louis by Bishop Dubourg. Sixteen years later, in 1839, he set out on his first trip to Texas. Traveling was beset with constant perils, untold hardships, and numberless privations. The country was infested with hostile Indians; the settlements were far apart; there were no roads; the prairies had neither trees nor water, and sickness was a frequent occurrence. "We were lucky," he wrote in his diary, "if we found a little hole where we disputed with the frog for a few drops of dirty and disgusting water."

In describing the hard lot of the missionary in Texas, he says: "In the course of my trip I have spent the night in the woods and in the open prairies. I have done my own cooking . . . We are often without a lodging place and are obliged to seek hospitality from Catholics and Protestants and are often compelled to recite our office amidst the cries of children or in the shining sun in the open prairie. In Texas one learns how to be a missionary. I believe I had already

served as an apprentice but since my arrival here I see that I was not even initiated." Conditions had changed but little from the days of the first pioneers in the XVI century.

On his return to New Orleans in 1841, Father Odin was much surprised to find papal bulls appointing him coadjutor Bishop of Detroit. With characteristic humility, he left the decision in the hands of his superior and friend, Father Timon. "Good men can easily be found for the bishopric of Detroit where things are already in a prosperous way, but it would be difficult to find a competent person now to take so poor and difficult a post as yours in Texas; hence," said Father Timon, "I think it more for the glory of God and the good of souls that you send back the bulls and return to your post."

Back to Texas went Father Odin, filled with joy at the opportunity to continue his work. When in February, 1842, he returned to Galveston, after a painful visit to many settlements, he found St. Mary's church completed. There were also urgent letters from Bishop Blanc, summoning him to New Orleans. Upon arrival, he found new papal bulls had been sent from Rome appointing him titular Bishop of Claudiopolis *in partibus infidelium* and vicar apostolic of Texas. With true humility, he explained to Father J. B. Etienne, procurator-general of the Congregation of the Mission, "Despite all the repugnance that I had shown, I had to make the sacrifice and accept a burden almost unbearable and far above my strength. I was consecrated by Mgr. Blanc, assisted by Mgrs. Portier and Chanche, on the sixth of March in the Cathedral of this city. Pray for me and have prayers said that I may obtain the graces I need to carry this new burden."

For five years he continued with zeal to build up the Church as vicar apostolic. Fruitful years they were, that saw ten new churches erected at incredible sacrifice, four more started, the establishment of a school at Brown's settlement, in Lavaca County, under the direction of the Reverend Edward Clark, and another in Brazoria under the Reverend James Miller. Eight Ursulines of New Orleans volunteered to open a school in Galveston, and property for it was



ARCHBISHOP TIMON
(center)
BISHOP DUBUIS
(extreme right)

promptly acquired. This pioneer band, under Mother St. Arsene, arrived in Galveston in January, 1847, and has the distinction of being the first community of women to come to Texas.

The pontifical bulls, *In Apostolicae Sedis Fastigio*, duly signed and sealed in Rome on May 4, 1847, erecting Texas into a bishopric and naming the Most Reverend John Mary Odin its first bishop, with Galveston as the see, was, therefore, the recognition of an accomplished fact that laid the foundation for the future development of the Church in the state.

The First Hundred Years

THE TRANSFER of Galveston from a Vicariate-Apostolic to a Diocese in 1847 was indicative of the speedy growth and organization of the Church in the new state of Texas. No longer was it to be simply a missionary territory but from then on it would be on its own as a full fledged Diocese. Under the capable guidance of its first Bishop, John Mary Odin, it had grown up in the incredibly short span of eight years from the time it had been established as a separate jurisdictional territory, first as a Prefecture and later a Vicariate.

The Diocese of Galveston must remain eternally grateful for the early ministrations of the Congregation of the Missions, the Vincentian Fathers. The area had been under their care from the time of its inception as a Prefecture-Apostolic in 1839. Father John Timon, Visitor (Superior) of the American Province of the Congregation was the first titular head of the territory as Prefect-Apostolic, and he left no stone unturned to further the work of the Church in the Lone Star Republic. The Prefecture became a Vicariate-Apostolic in 1842, with Father John Mary Odin appointed Vicar-Apostolic and titular Bishop of Claudiopolis.

Once constituted a Diocese, however, Galveston could no longer depend solely on that Congregation for its personnel but recruited its forces from other religious groups and from the secular priesthood in European countries, notably Ireland and France.

Coincident with the establishment of the Diocese was the building of the Cathedral Church of St. Mary in Galveston which, at the time of its completion, was considered a marvel of architecture and beauty, "rivaling the great churches of the East."

In those years it was a poverty stricken Diocese to which the European priests were invited, and Bishop Odin warned them that there would be no luxuries, scarcely the necessities. With apos-

tolic zeal they answered the call in goodly numbers. The Bishop's diary informs the reader that he himself lived on less than four dollars a month.

The beginning of missionary work in the lower Rio Grande valley occurred in December, 1849, when the Oblate Fathers arrived in Brownsville and established headquarters at the request of the Bishop. The territory embraced an area extending over one hundred miles inland from the Gulf of Mexico.

Within ten years these priests had built an imposing church, dedicated to the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mother.

The seed was well planted in the valley by the Oblates, but the effort cost some lives among the personnel. Yellow fever epidemics claimed several priests; one was lost in his missionary journeys and his remains were not found for several years.

From Brownsville the Oblates established other parishes in the area committed to their care, and today their labors continue in the present Dioceses of Galveston and Corpus Christi.

At the request of Bishop Odin the Oblates opened a college at Galveston in 1854, under the direction of Father P. F. Parisot, O. M. I. Three years later the school was relinquished by them, and during the ensuing thirty years it was under the direction of various religious congregations and secular priests. In 1884 it was placed under the supervision of the Jesuits who conducted it until 1924 when, with their departure, the school was closed in Galveston and the charter transferred to the present St. Mary's University (Seminary) at La Porte.

It was during the reign of Bishop Odin that the Ursuline Sisters and the Sisters of the Incarnate Word came to the Diocese. The Ursuline Sisters, whose centennial was celebrated in January, 1947, opened their first foundation in Galveston. Later they opened a house in Dallas, while

the Incarnate Word Sisters made foundations in Houston, Victoria, Brownsville and Corpus Christi.

On the promotion of Bishop Odin to the Archbishopric of New Orleans in 1861, his devoted co-worker, Father Claude Marie Dubuis, C. M., was appointed to the See of Galveston and consecrated in Lyons, France, November 23, 1862. He arrived in Galveston in the spring of 1863. In the interim before his coming Father Louis Chambodut, one of the outstanding priests of that time, administered the Diocese.

An outstanding accomplishment of the reign of the second Bishop was the acquisition of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word who built the first Catholic hospital in Texas at Galveston and whose hospitals are now found throughout the Diocese and other parts of Texas.

St. Edward's University was established in Austin by the venerable founder of Notre Dame University, Father Edward Sorin, C.S.C. That school is within the limits of the present Archdiocese of San Antonio. The Holy Cross priests, brothers and sisters did much in the early days of the Church as well as in the present for the furtherance of the Church in Texas.

In 1874 the Diocese was divided with the establishment of the Diocese of San Antonio and the Vicariate-Apostolic of Brownsville.

Despite its loss of territory the Diocese saw great spiritual and material growth during the reign of its third Bishop, Nicholas A. Gallagher, the first secular priest to be appointed its Bishop. He was consecrated administrator of the Diocese and titular Bishop of Canopus in the Cathedral at Galveston on April 30, 1882, the only episcopal consecration performed in the Cathedral during the century of its existence. Bishop Dubuis, worn out by his labors, had resigned the jurisdiction of the See, although he kept the title of Galveston until 1892 when he was promoted to a titular Archiepiscopal See. Right Reverend P. Dufal, C.S.C., had been appointed coadjutor with right of succession to Bishop Dubuis on May 14, 1878, but resigned the office less than two years later.

Many religious orders were brought to the Diocese during the administration of Bishop Gal-

lagher, notably the Dominican Order of Preachers and Josephite Fathers, as well as the Dominican and Good Shepherd Sisters. It was during his reign that the first organized work for the Negro Catholics was begun in Galveston with the erection of the first Catholic church in Texas built exclusively for their race.

The second division of the Diocese was made in 1890 when the Diocese of Dallas was formed from parts of the Dioceses of Galveston and San Antonio.

In 1896 there came into the priesthood of the Diocese of Galveston one who would leave an indelible imprint upon the pages of its history and in the minds and memories of all who came to know him for his zeal and devotion to the cause of Christ.

Father James Martin Kirwin, ordained in the previous year, was appointed rector of the Cathedral in 1896, which position he held until his death thirty years later, January 24, 1926. In 1911 he accepted the rectorship of the seminary, in addition to his Cathedral duties, and was the exemplary superior of the students at that school, which had been founded by Bishop Gallagher, until his death. Appointed Vicar-General of the Diocese by Bishop Gallagher, he served in that office during the reign of the present Bishop as well. Father Kirwin administered the Diocese after the death of Bishop Gallagher until the appointment and arrival of Bishop Byrne. In 1922 he was made a Domestic Prelate and in the following year he received the degree of Doctor of Laws from Notre Dame University.

Father Kirwin's leadership was acknowledged by people of all creeds when, after the 1900 storm which was so destructive to the city of Galveston, he helped form the Committee for Public Safety which directed the work of feeding the hungry, caring for the injured and burying the dead. He wrote the order placing the stricken city under martial law and did much to encourage and lead the people in the rebuilding of the island city.

He was a staunch fighter for good, religious and civil, and led the fight against the Ku Klux Klan in the Southwest, fearful not at all of the threats of the hooded terrorists. If any proof



BISHOP DUBUIS AND HIS PRIESTS

was needed of the loyalty of Catholics to their country it was at hand in full measure in the daily life of James Martin Kirwin, priest and patriot.

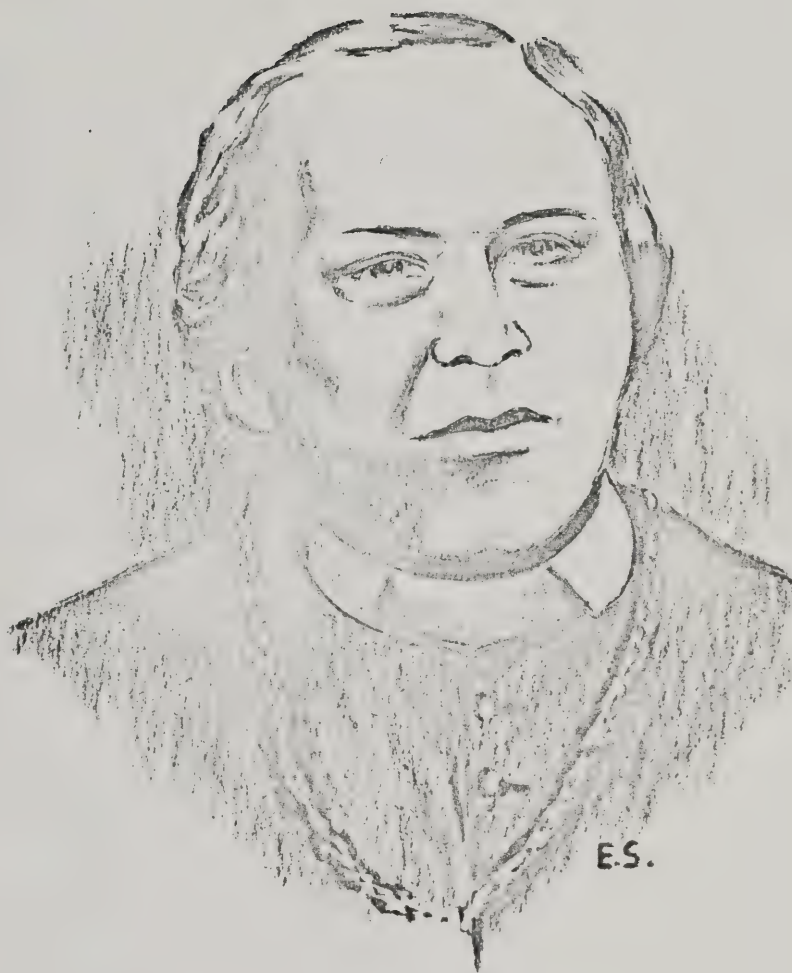
The fourth and present Bishop of Galveston, Christopher Edward Byrne, was consecrated in St. Louis on November 10, 1918, and took possession of his See on Thanksgiving Day of that year. In the past twenty-eight years, under his direction and leadership, the Diocese has made remarkable progress.

During his administration, among many outstanding improvements and additions, notably the educational facilities increased by several high schools throughout the Diocese, there has been the recent establishment of a university in Houston. The work among the Spanish and the colored people has gone on apace, with additional churches and schools for the former and new parishes for the latter as well as two hospitals for the exclusive care of the people of that

race.

At the present time there are in the Diocese 254,475 Catholics, 117 parishes with resident pastors, 79 missions, and a total of 263 priests, 160 of whom are seculars. The great majority of the diocesan priests are native Texans. There are 1,272 nuns. Two universities now function in the Diocese, in addition to the seminary. Fifteen high schools and seventy-seven elementary schools care for the education of the children and youth, while two orphanages, twelve hospitals and one home for the aged furnish the centers for the works of mercy in the Diocese.

The Diocese of Galveston reviews in this year of Our Lord, 1947, its first hundred years, humbly conscious of the great strides made for God in the work of the Church in Texas under four outstanding leaders, and looks forward to the future with confidence for "the hand of God is here."



BISHOP ODIN

Sower of the Seed

JOHN MARY ODIN, C. M.
FIRST BISHOP OF GALVESTON
1847—1862



WO YEARS after Texas gained its admission into the United States, Galveston was erected as the twenty-eighth Diocese in the nation on May 4, 1847. Its boundaries were those of the state, and its first bishop was John M. Odin, C. M., who for five years had been its vicar. The former Republic of Texas was a Vicariate-Apostolic.

Texas is proud of its great area, and Catholics should be proud of the superhuman efforts of her pioneer priests to spread the faith. The erection of the Diocese found thirteen priests laboring in Texas while one convent opened by the Ursuline Sisters was in existence at Galveston.

John Mary Odin was born in the village of Hauteville, France, on February 25, 1800, the seventh of ten children. He began his seminary studies in his native France but, eager for work in mission lands, he heeded the invitation of the Right Reverend Louis DuBourg of New Orleans to work in his Diocese. Arriving in the United States in 1822 he was ordained to the priesthood on May 4, 1823, at the Barrens, Missouri, famed pioneer seminary of the Congregation of the Missions of which Father Odin was a member.

For some years he was a professor at his Alma Mater, at the same time looking after missions in the vicinity. Later his work was the care of the Missouri Missions exclusively.

On May 2, 1840, Father Odin was sent to Texas as Vice-Prefect Apostolic to serve as the representative of Father John Timon, C. M., the Prefect. Less than two years later he was raised to the Episcopate as titular Bishop of Claudiopolis and Vicar-Apostolic of Texas, in the Cathedral at New Orleans.

No source of income was at the disposal of the stout-hearted leader; yet on March 14, 1847, seven weeks before its elevation to a Diocese, Galveston had seen the cornerstone of its Cathedral laid.

This old edifice, symbol of the lasting works of her bishops, clergy, and religious and of the

very Rock of Peter itself, has observed 100 years of history.

John Mary Odin had Galveston as his See city but the farthest reaches of the largest state of the Union were not strange to him. Up and down its thousands of square miles he went, preaching in all conceivable places, even in Protestant churches, speaking to all classes of people and even to the Legislature of the State itself.

In 1849, His Excellency brought to his Diocese the Oblates of Mary Immaculate to care for the Rio Grande valley, in which garden spot and in other parts of the Diocese this great Order has worked for the faith for almost a century of the Diocese's existence.

In the spring of 1854 Bishop Odin built a seminary in Frelsburg, Texas, under the direction of Father V. Gury.

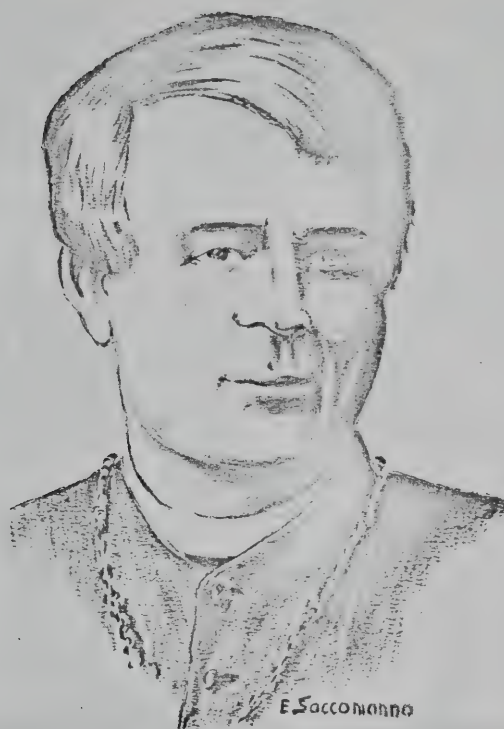
His zeal for the spread of the faith resulted in forty priests by 1855, and "one poor bishop"; though the same year he was visited with a tragic loss of seven of them during an epidemic of yellow fever.

The Sisters of the Incarnate Word, so familiar to the Diocese with their own centenary now in sight, were brought from France, as were the Brothers of Mary.

The first diocesan synod was convened by Bishop Odin on June 20, 1858, and in the same year new churches were built in San Antonio (St. Mary's) and Brownsville (Immaculate Conception), and in 1860 a convent at Liberty by the Ursulines. In the same year he brought the Benedictine Fathers and the Franciscans into this Diocese.

On April 19, 1861, Bishop Odin was promoted by His Holiness, Pius IX, to the Archiepiscopal See of New Orleans.

He left behind him for his successor forty-five churches, and forty-six priests. Truly was John Mary Odin the husbandman, Sower of the Seed, in the Diocese of Galveston.



Apostle On Horseback
CLAUDE MARIE DUBUIS, C.M.
SECOND BISHOP OF GALVESTON
1862—1881

TECHE, near Roanne, France, was the birthplace on March 8, 1817, of Claude Marie Dubuis. He met his predecessor in the See of Galveston early in life, for two years after his ordination in 1844 he answered the call of Texas' first Bishop for volunteers to the missionary field of the then republic. Arriving in the United States in 1846 he was immediately assigned to Castroville, Texas, where he ministered to the congregation of Belgians, Hollanders, Hanoverians, Prussians, Westphalians, Huns, and Austrians. Symbolic of the youthful priest's zeal is the fact that in three weeks he had learned the native tongue,

a combination of German, Spanish and French, sufficiently well to preach to his people. Within a short period after his arrival as first resident pastor, over 500 people had approached the Sacraments.

He built a church in 1850 and said the first Mass in it on Easter Sunday.

At the direction of Bishop Odin, Father Dubuis went to France in 1852 and succeeded in obtaining priests and students for the Diocese. Lacking the funds to pay their passage, the resourceful priest assumed the duties as physician aboard the ship to pay the passage of all.

On his return to the Diocese he built the first St. Mary's Church at San Antonio, doing much of the manual work himself. When his health failed temporarily after the completion of the building, he refused to rest, not wanting the 8,000 Catholics then in San Antonio to be without the ministrations of a priest.

Little wonder that such a tireless apostle was chosen to succeed Bishop John Odin on the latter's promotion as Archbishop of New Orleans. He had the great satisfaction to be consecrated to the Episcopate by his predecessor in the seminary chapel at Lyons, France, on November 23, 1862.

On his return to Texas he brought with him to his Diocese sixty people, priests, seminarians, and religious, among them John Anthony Forest and Thomas Heslin, both later to be bishops, of San Antonio and Natchez, respectively. He reached his Diocese in April, 1863.

In the following year, feeling the need imperative for the priests he had left in New Orleans for further study after their arrival from France, he brought them from there personally, although they had to cross through both the Union and Confederate forces in Louisiana. The trip was made by Bishop, priests and seminarians, afoot from New Orleans to Galveston through swamps and trails, with one small wagon carrying all their worldly effects.

In 1866 Bishop Dubuis brought the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word from Lyons, France. Three of these were forerunners of that legion of hospital sisters whose name has been blessed by the sick and tortured, in hospitals throughout this and other Dioceses since that long-ago arrival.

In the following year he was called to the Rio Grande valley to care for the flood-ravaged people of that portion of his Diocese. He knew no rest,

but went on horseback wherever called, and at night the episcopal residence was often the green of God's earth and his throne, a rude box in some ranchman's hut.

In 1869 Bishop Dubuis held the second synod of the Diocese, with twenty-three priests present. The same year he attended the Vatican Council in Rome.

On his return he made a visitation of the northern and eastern portions of the Diocese en route to his See city, making this trip, as always, by horse. Two weeks after his return to Galveston he made a visitation of the western portion of the See, again by horse, and on these two trips this tireless apostle on horseback confirmed over 15,000 people.

Little wonder that at the Bishop's request, Rome divided the Diocese for the first time, erecting the Diocese of San Antonio and the Vicariate of Brownsville in 1874.

In 1878 Rome granted his request for a coadjutor in the appointment of Right Reverend P. Dufal, C.S.C., at that time Vicar-Apostolic of Bengal, India. After two years, however, Bishop Dufal resigned.

Bishop Dubuis returned to France in 1880 and resigned the Diocese in the following year, although retaining the title until 1892 when he was made a titular Archbishop.

The last fifteen years of his life were spent in Vernaison, France, but his heart and thoughts were with the beloved Diocese of Galveston. On the Golden Jubilee of his priesthood in 1894 several of his former confreres from the Texas Diocese journeyed to France to rejoice with their former superior, while at home his successor pontificated in his honor, and the Diocese sent him many gifts, spiritual and material. The pioneer apostle of the Church in Texas died May 21, 1895, after fifty-one years in the priesthood and thirty-three years as a successor of the apostles.

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BISHOP GALLAGHER

Master Builder

NICHOLAS ALOYSIUS GALLAGHER
THIRD BISHOP OF GALVESTON
1882—1918



HEREAS the first two bishops of the Diocese were of French origin, their two successors have been of Irish descent.

Nicholas Aloysius Gallagher was born in Temperanceville, Ohio, on February 9, 1846, and was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Columbus in that state, on Christmas Day, 1868.

Upon the resignation of Bishop Dufal, administrator of the Diocese of Galveston after the departure of Bishop Dubuis for France and his retirement, the Holy See chose Father Gallagher as the third head of the See. He was consecrated Titular of Canopus and administrator in the Galveston Cathedral on April 30, 1882. Bishop in all but title of Galveston, he succeeded to the See in fact in 1892, at the promotion of Bishop Dubuis to a titular Archbishopric.

On his arrival in the Diocese, Bishop Gallagher found forty-three priests, fifty churches and chapels, two students for the priesthood, three parochial schools, one college for boys, two academies for girls, one orphanage, one hospital, 107 nuns, and 30,000 Catholics.

Under his reign he brought in the Jesuit

Fathers (to take over St. Mary's University at Galveston), the Basilians, Josephites, Paulists and the Dominicans. He introduced the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, Good Shepherd Sisters, colored Sisters of the Holy Family and the Dominican Sisters.

In 1901 Bishop Gallagher bought the Sylvan Beach Hotel and opened his own seminary, with the Basilian Fathers in charge. In 1908, he added the administration building to the seminary, and in 1911 placed his own diocesan clergy in charge of it.

On his entrance to the Diocese his jurisdiction covered 150,000 square miles. In 1890, at his request, the Diocese of Dallas was erected from parts of the Dioceses of Galveston and San Antonio. By the time of his death in January, 1918, he had survived all the priests who were living at the time of his consecration, and had more than double the number of priests and lay people in the Diocese, leaving 105 priests with 120 churches and missions, and 70,000 Catholics.

He was, in the words of his eulogist, Bishop Lynch of Dallas, a model priest, a zealous bishop, a loyal citizen.

Valiant Shepherd

CHRISTOPHER EDWARD BYRNE
FOURTH BISHOP OF GALVESTON
1918—



HE MOST familiar figure in the present day Diocese is the beloved shepherd who for more than a quarter of its century has been the sacerdotal model to his priests and the gentle ruler of his flock.

Christopher Edward Byrne was born in Byrnesville, Missouri, on April 21, 1867. After studying under the Jesuit Fathers at St. Mary's, Kansas, and the Sulpicians at St. Mary's, Baltimore, he was ordained to the priesthood in St. John's Church, St. Louis, on September 23, 1891, a member of the last class ordained by Peter Richard Kenrick, who for half a century had presided over the historic See of St. Louis.

After six years as assistant at St. Bridget's, St. Louis, Father Byrne became pastor at Columbia, Missouri. His next appointment was pastor at Edina, Missouri, where during a tenure of eleven years he built a school and a convent. Called to St. Louis he became pastor at Holy Name, where after remodeling the school, buying a convent, and building a rectory, he crowned his labors in the Archdiocese with a magnificent church. All was accomplished during a pastorate of only seven years.

All of his labors in the priesthood readily pointed him out as one worthy of the Episcopate, and on November 10, 1918, Christopher Edward Byrne was consecrated fourth Bishop of Galveston in the old Cathedral of St. Louis by the late John Cardinal Glennon. He arrived in Galveston to take possession of his See on Thanksgiving Day of the same year.

In the twenty-eight years of his reign, the work of Bishop Byrne has been a source of pride and edification to his priests and people. At eighty years of age his zeal and activity have abated not in the least from the day he assumed the burden of the episcopacy.

While the Diocese, since its inception, has been divided into the Archdiocese of San Antonio, and the Dioceses of El Paso, Corpus Christi, Dallas, and Amarillo, the present Diocese of Galveston has more than twice as many priests, people and institutions as it had at the time of its last division.

Bishop Byrne has brought into the Diocese the LaSalette, Passionist, Redemptorist, Franciscans, Society of the Divine Word, Augustinian Fathers as well as the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, Dominican Sisters of the Second Order, Felician Sisters, Sisters of the Atonement, Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, Sisters of St. Francis of Our Lady of Lourdes, Holy Cross Sisters, Sister Servants of the Holy Ghost, Holy Family Sisters, Sacred Heart Sisters, and Sisters of the Divine Providence. His extension of spiritual and charitable facilities among the Spanish-speaking and the colored people has been a notable phase of his work.

On the occasion of his Golden Jubilee as a priest on September 23, 1941, despite a storm of hurricane force, many bishops, the majority of his priests, and many of the laity showed their affection and appreciation by their presence, on which occasion His Excellency was favored by the Holy Father with appointment as assistant at

the pontifical throne and a personal letter from His Holiness.

Two years later His Excellency celebrated the Silver Jubilee of his consecration. Ever young in heart Bishop Byrne plans a new seminary and orphanage, work among the deaf-mutes, and extension of social service work. To this end a fund of \$1,000,000 was raised by the laity for presentation on the occasion of the centennial in April, 1947.

During his tenure in office Bishop Byrne has organized Diocesan Supervision of the Priests Eucharistic League, the Society of the Propagation of the Faith, Holy Name Society, Catholic Rural Life, Catholic Charities, Catholic Youth Organization, National Council of Catholic Women, and Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary. His furtherance of the work of the Knights of Columbus, National Council of Catholic Women, Catholic Knights of America, and Catholic War Veterans has encouraged and inspired those organizations in their work. In 1946 he accepted the office of Supreme Spiritual Director of the Catholic Knights. He has shown his constant

interest in all these organizations by his support and presence whenever possible at all functions.

It is a noteworthy fact that during the twenty-eight years, Bishop Byrne has been faithfully served by the same chancellor, the Right Reverend Louis J. Reicher, P. A., whose devotion to duty and orderly care of the Chancery are the admiration of the clergy.

During his reign two Vicar-Generals have served. The late Monsignor Kirwin and the present Msgr. E. A. Kelly of Beaumont have filled the office.

The people of the Diocese bought a magnificent home for the Bishop in Galveston where he resides with his two devoted sisters, the Misses Mary and Ellen Byrne.

The Diocese, ever conscious that its gains, spiritual and material, under its fourth Bishop have been due, with God's grace, chiefly to his inspired leadership, prays God to grant it the favor of the continued presence of its present shepherd, famed for his tireless zeal, his gentle rule, and his priestly zeal, for many years to come.



St. Mary's Cathedral

1847-1947

Shaded by palm trees, surrounded by shrubs, and partially cloaked in ivy, St. Mary's Cathedral stands on the corner of 21st and Church Streets on Galveston Island, a memorial to its builder, Bishop John Mary Odin, and testimonial to the zeal with which he and his fellow missionaries once again sowed the seed of faith in Texas, after it had begun to languish and die because of the Revolution which gained Texas its independence but left Catholics without a local shepherd to guide them.

During 1841 Father John M. Odin, recently appointed Vicar-Apostolic of Texas, managed to procure enough money to begin the construction of a small frame church. He was assisted greatly in this venture by N. D. Labadie, who, along with the Menards, proved himself a true lay-apostle in the early years of the Church in Galveston.

On February 6, 1842, one month before his consecration as Bishop, Odin dedicated the completed structure to the Blessed Virgin. It was to be lamented, he thought, that the small rectangular building, only fifty by twenty-two feet, should be the principal Church of the Vicariate. He returned to Galveston immediately after his consecration upon receipt of the news of a Mexican invasion of Texas. Since the development of the Church in the west would have to wait upon the settlement of the difficulties with Mexico, he applied what funds he had to the eastern section of the Vicariate. In Galveston he bought a five-room cottage as the episcopal residence, and purchased thirty benches in lieu of pews for the church to which he added a small sacristy. But on September 19, 1842, a storm blew down the small church. This convinced him even more of the necessity of a more durable structure, but in the meantime he made what improvements he could. The tiny chapel was propped up, and the next year a small tower was added in which he hung the Mass-bell on March 21, 1843.

On May 11, 1844, Bishop Odin welcomed two more Vincentian priests to Galveston, J. M. Pa-

quin and John Brands. In August, 1844, Galveston suffered from an epidemic of yellow fever, which resulted in the death of 200 citizens. Father Brands had been heroically attending the sick and dying, and Father Paquin, then on a visitation, immediately set out to assist his fellow priest in his work of mercy. Both of them fell victims of the disease on the sixth, and Paquin, too weak to throw it off, succumbed on the thirteenth. Three years later his body was removed from its burial place to the new Cathedral by Father Brands.

In 1845 the gift of almost a half-million bricks, was made to Odin in Belgium, which were shipped freight-free from Antwerp to Galveston. Now he was prepared to realize his dreams of a permanent church for Galveston.

The little frame church was moved out into the street, and work on the new St. Mary's began in 1847. The ceremony of laying the cornerstone took place on Sunday, March 14. Father Timon, formerly Prefect-Apostolic of Texas, who came to Galveston for the event, preached the sermon before a large crowd which had come to witness the ceremony. On the same day Father Chambodut made the following entry in the Baptismal register:

In the year of Our Lord, 1847 on the 14th of March,

In the first year of the Pontificate of His Holiness, Pius IX,

In the seventy-first year of the Independence of America,

James K. Polk being President of the United States of America,

Pickney J. Henderson, Governor of the State of Texas,

John P. Sydnor, Mayor of the City of Galveston,

The Most Reverend John Marie Odin, Bishop of Claudiopolis, and Vicar Apostolic of Texas, assisted by the Very Rev. John Timon, Visitor of the Congregation of the Missions in America, and John Brands, C.M., Vicar-Gen-

Galveston Deanery

eral, and by the Rev. Messrs. Bartholomew Rollando, C.M., Louis Claude Marie Chambodut, Matthew Chazelle, and Anthony Chanrion, the Very Rev. John Timon preached a sermon before a large congregation, solemnly blessed and placed in the foundation, this cornerstone of the Church, erected to Almighty God under the invocation of Holy Mary Ever Virgin.

On May 4, 1847, Pius IX created the Diocese of Galveston out of the Vicariate of Texas. Bishop Odin was promoted to occupy the See as the first Bishop of Galveston, and St. Mary's would become his Cathedral Church upon its completion.

But, before its completion, the parish experienced the loss of one of its zealous priests, the Rev. Bartholomew Rollando, C.M., who had come to Galveston in November, 1845. Yellow fever once more struck Galveston and he fell, a victim of the plague, on October 11, 1847. In his memory a memorial tablet was placed in the wall of the Cathedral near the Sacred Heart Altar.

On November 26, 1848, the Cathedral was ready for dedication. Once again John Timon was chosen as the principal speaker because of his close association with, and his pioneer work in the Diocese. He had been promoted to the See of Buffalo as its first Bishop, and on this occasion gave three sermons, one while the rites of dedication were carried on inside the Church, another at the Solemn Mass that followed, and the third at Benediction which was held at 7:00 p. m. Once again the event was recorded in the Baptismal register, this time in the handwriting of Bishop Odin and signed by himself, the two assisting Bishops, and the priests who were present:

In the year of Our Lord, 1848, on the 26th of November,

I, John Marie Odin, C. M., Bishop of Galveston, assisted by the Most Rev. Anthony Blane, Bishop of New Orleans, and the

Most Rev. John Timon, C. M., Bishop of Buffalo;

and by the Rev. N. J. Perche, Chaplain of the Ursuline Convent at New Orleans, in the office of Arch-deacon; Edward Clarke, rector of St. Vincent's at Houston, and James

Girardon, missionary at Lavacca, and John Brands, C. M., in the office of deacons; by James R. Miller, missionary at Brazoria, and Charles Padey, missionary at Lavacca, in the office of sub-deacons; by Joseph Anstaett, chanter; Edward D'Hauw, pastor of St. Joseph's Church at New Orleans, and Richard Hennessy, C.M., master of ceremonies; a large congregation being present, I consecrated our Cathedral Church and dedicated it to Almighty God under the invocation of the Blessed Virgin Mary; this being finished, the Most Rev. Bishop of New Orleans celebrated a Solemn Mass, during which the Bishop of Buffalo gave the sermon, he also preached, before a large congregation, while the consecration took place inside the church.

Bishop Odin could look with justifiable pride upon the completed structure. An appealing example of Gothic architecture, 130 feet long and 75 feet wide, with a transept width of 100 feet and a height of 60 feet, above which extended twin towers, the Cathedral dominated the city, most of whose buildings were frame constructions. It was a fitting symbol of the progress of the Church and an incentive to the Bishop and priests to justify further their newly won diocesan status.

For the administration of the affairs of the Cathedral Parish, Bishop Odin and his successors were wise in the priests they chose as rectors. Father Brands, who assumed the office after Father Paquin's death, was forced to retire in 1849 because of ill health. During the following year the burdens of the parish were shared by Fathers Richard Hennessy, C.M., and A. Gaudet, O.M.I. But, in 1851 Bishop Odin decided to call Father Louis Chambodut in from the missions and appoint him as rector.

Father L. C. M. Chambodut, rector for twenty-nine years, endeared himself to the parish and the city by his selfless devotion during the yellow fever epidemics and his heroic care of the wounded in the Battle of Galveston during the Civil War. It was only a few weeks after his appointment that he was made Vicar-General of the Diocese, an office he held until his death on December 7, 1880, when he was buried in the

Galveston Deanery

Cathedral where he had served God and His children for so many years.

It was during the epidemic of yellow fever of 1853 that the people of Galveston were given further evidence that the true *alter Christus* is also willing to give his life for his flock. In that year, and early in the next, seven priests died of diseases contracted while ministering to the faithful. In memory of these priests, Fathers J. C. Melton, J. Baudran, J. P. Bajard, G. Metz, D. O'Driscoll, and E. Hug who died of yellow fever, and of Father J. Dixon who died of consumption, a marble monument has been erected to mark their graves near the entrance of the Cathedral.

During the years of his tenure, Father Chambodut saw and helped bring about many advances and changes in the parish. The Ursulines came to Galveston at the invitation of Bishop Odin in January, 1847, and since that time have conducted a school for girls. But, shortly after the Cathedral was built, the Bishop began to lay plans for a school for boys in the city. He had arranged for, and often taught catechism classes in a private school conducted by James P. Nash, but in 1853, he wrote of a "seminary and a college" that was planned for the training of young men. The Galveston City Company had made a grant of a block of land for an educational institution and upon this was built St. Mary's College which was to function, with varying success, for seventy years.

Bishop Odin was promoted on April 19, 1861, to the Archbishopric of New Orleans, and Father Chambodut was appointed administrator of the Diocese until Bishop Claude Dubuis, who was consecrated on November 23, 1862, in Lyons, France, arrived in Galveston in the spring of 1863. Bishop Dubuis had come to Texas in 1847 and since that time had labored principally in Castroville and San Antonio. He found, this time, that the Civil War which was still in progress, had not left Galveston untouched. "The Cathedral," he was to write, "is riddled with bullets. Only on dry days can I say Mass within its walls." The Ursulines had turned their school into a military hospital where the wounded of both sides were given attention. This incident and

the frequent outbreaks of yellow fever probably induced him to take steps that led to the foundation of a religious order for nursing the sick.

As grand as the Cathedral seemed when it was erected, there were some additions to be made before the exterior obtained its present appealing appearance. Employing the aid of N. J. Clayton, the Bishop had the tower built in 1876. And on May 26, 1876, a note appeared in the *Galveston News* stating:

It is proposed to erect a statue of the Virgin Mary, about 15 ft. high, on the newly constructed tower over the Cathedral. Some \$500 have been subscribed for this purpose.

By the year 1878 the statue, with its outstretched arms picturing Mary's protection, and a bell, cast in 1877 and donated by John L. Darrough, were in their proper places on the tower.

In 1884 the Cathedral received another alteration when, under the direction of N. J. Clayton, the two front towers were heightened to bring them into proportion with the central tower which had been added eight years previously.

Since their arrival, the Cathedral Parochial School had been conducted by the Dominicans in their own convent buildings, but, in 1892, a new building was constructed on cathedral property at 20th and Winnie Streets. This building, dedicated on the first day of May, 1892, "to the greater glory of God, and the honor of his Immaculate Virgin Mother Mary, our dearest mother, for the Christian education of youth," was used as both a high school and grammar school until 1924 when the high school department was discontinued.

Bishop Nicholas A. Gallagher, who was consecrated in the Cathedral at Galveston on April 30, 1882, after the retirement of Bishop Dubuis, for many years retained the title of rector of the Cathedral, but the names of many of the priests to whom he entrusted much of the parochial business are still familiar to the older members of the parish. Among these was Father J. Querat who succeeded Father Buffard, and remained until 1886; he was followed by Father J. Blum who was given the title of rector until 1888; after he was transferred, Fathers D. A. Logue, J. Mahoney and S. Spinneweber shared the years until 1891. Then Father M. McSorley was appointed

Galveston Deanery

and served until 1895 when he was followed in office by Father J. Reade. Father James M. Kirwin became rector in 1896 and for twenty years until his death in 1926 worked untiringly in that office, at the same time holding the positions of Vicar-General and rector of the seminary.

The Cathedral withstood the storm of 1900, and in 1907 a celebration commemorated the sixtieth anniversary of the Diocese and the Cathedral, and also the twenty-fifth anniversary of Bishop Gallagher's episcopacy.

In preparation for the occasion many improvements were made within the Cathedral. The sanctuary floor was replaced with mosaic tiling, the wooden wainscoting was replaced by marble, and marble foundations were put under the Bishop's throne and the two side altars. A new main altar of marble was erected upon the foundations which were laid for it when the Cathedral was built. New pews and five new memorial windows were installed. Four of these windows are in the sanctuary and the fifth is over the main entrance, representing Christ in the Garden. At the same time, the whole building and the episcopal residence adjoining were stuccoed and a cement coping was built to enclose the lawn.

On the Feast of St. Agnes, January 21, 1918, Bishop Gallagher passed to his eternal reward, and during the months that followed, Father Kirwin acted as administrator of the Diocese.

In preparation for the Diamond Jubilee of the Diocese and Cathedral, the marble altar rail and steps were constructed, the two marble side altars erected, and the whole of the interior was decorated anew. A beautiful new organ was installed in time for the occasion. An instrument well fitted to accompany the praises sung to God for the blessings bestowed upon the Diocese, it was equipped with about 3,000 pipes with four manuals, an echo organ and a full set of twenty-five chimes.

The Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, present beloved Bishop of Galveston, was consecrated in the

Cathedral of St. Louis on November 10, 1918.

Father Bernard Lee was appointed to succeed Monsignor Kirwin as rector of the Cathedral, and was followed in office by Father Thomas A. Carney in August, 1928.

The old Cathedral rectory had been built about the same time as the Cathedral, and when Father Carney considered remodeling the building he found it impracticable; instead, it was torn down and a new building of similar architectural style was erected.

It was in August, 1933, that Father Daniel P. O'Connell was called from his post as president of the seminary to the Cathedral to become rector when Father Carney was transferred to Dickinson. Having celebrated his Silver Jubilee in 1939, and having been honored with the title of Monsignor as a Domestic Prelate in 1940, Monsignor O'Connell has taken his place among the long list of priests who have directed the affairs of the Cathedral Parish for 100 years. The esteem in which he is held throughout the city and Diocese is proof that he has followed well the traditions of his predecessors.

Such is, in part, the story of historic St. Mary's Cathedral, inseparable from the history of the Diocese of Galveston. The solid permanence of its gray and weather-stained walls bespeaks its survival through a century during which the ambassadors of Christ have labored in order that "all may meet in the unity of faith and grow up unto the fullness of the age and stature of Christ." The solemn majesty of its aisles bespeaks the supplications sent up to God in time of distress and the praise offered to Him at all times by those who were cognizant of the truth of the motto inscribed in mosaic across the sanctuary:

Domum Dei decet sanctitudo

Sponsum ejus Christum adoremus in ea.

Holiness befits the House of God,

Christ, its Spouse, we adore in it.

* * * *

Galveston Deanery

St. Joseph's

GALVESTON

April 23, 1860, was a gala day for the numerous German Catholics of Galveston and for Father Joseph Anstaett, who while residing at the Cathedral, had labored among them for many years. It was the day of dedication of their own church and the beginning of their parochial existence under the patronage of St. Joseph.

School was first taught by two lay teachers in the building that is now St. Joseph's Hall. About 1880 a school building was erected and the Divine Providence Sisters from San Antonio took charge.

Many were the priests who labored in this parish in the past eighty-five years: Fathers Anstaett; N. Gaellweiler; Greyenbuehl; Em. Fleury; J. F. Lauth, C.S.C.; V. Gury, V.G.; Phil Keller; Heintzelmann; J. B. Weimer; and P. M. Lenartz.

The 1900 storm damaged the church, but within the year it was not only repaired, but enlarged and completely redecorated as well, and enriched with new statuary, vestments and sacred vessels.

In 1905 the new rectory was built.

Since 1939 the Perpetual Novena to Our Sorrowful Mother has drawn hundreds of devout Novenites to the weekly services at the Shrine.

The present pastor, Father A. M. Maechler, has been in charge for the past fourteen years.

Sacred Heart

GALVESTON

Right Reverend Bishop N. A. Gallagher on June 21, 1884, assigned the east end of the city of Galveston to the Jesuits to be organized into a new parish with Father John F. O'Connor, S.J., as pastor.

From 1884 until 1892, the church services of the parish were conducted in a chapel that was housed in the old building of St. Mary's University.

Although the parish had its beginning in 1884, such beginning was not the first phase of the development of the parish. In 1854, the block of ground on which the present Sacred Heart Church is standing was donated to Bishop Odin, Bishop of the Diocese of Galveston, with the condition that an educational institution for boys be erected

on the grounds. In 1854, a three-story brick building was completed. This building (demolished in 1924) was considered a large one in its day in the new state of Texas.

The seed of enthusiasm so planted into a small group of devout pioneer parishioners developed into a material objective of the building of a church in keeping with their zeal. First, in a financial and then in a structural way the church took shape. In 1889 construction was begun of the beautiful church that was to be erected on 13th and Broadway, facing south. On January 17, 1892, the church was dedicated to the Sacred Heart by Right Reverend Bishop N. A. Gallagher.

However, this architectural gem designed by architect N. J. Clayton and constructed under the supervision of Brother Otton was not destined to be permanent, for only eight years after its dedication, it was destroyed during the 1900 storm. The destruction was complete with the exception of two stained windows, the statue of the Sacred Heart that is atop the present church, the bell, and a large crucifix, which remained in its position in the demolished church.

June 21, 1903, marked the beginning of the present Sacred Heart Church when the cornerstone was laid by Most Reverend Bishop N. A. Gallagher. On January 17, 1904, the church was dedicated. The style of the building, both interior and exterior, is Moresque. A large dome 100 feet high surmounts the sanctuary.

The Sacred Heart Parochial School, consisting of eight grammar grades was first established at 11th Street and Avenue I. The parochial school was under the direction of the Ursuline Sisters until 1934. The Dominican Sisters are now in charge of the school with an enrollment of over 400 children.

The spiritual guidance of the parish from 1884 until 1924 was under the direction of the Jesuit Fathers. In 1924, Father Marius S. Chataignon became the pastor when the Jesuits retired from the parish. During Monsignor Chataignon's pastorate, he has been assisted by the late Father M. I. Hurley, and Fathers C. P. Sullivan, H. T. Schroeder, J. P. Sullivan, H. J. Eastland and the present assistant, Father George V. Rhein.

Galveston Deanery

St. Patrick's

GALVESTON

This parish was established on November 19, 1878. Bishop John Quinlan of Mobile, Alabama, officiated at the laying of the cornerstone, in the absence of Bishop Dubuis.

Father Glynn, the first pastor, labored zealously for his people until his death on March 26, 1880. During the next ten years, Father Bussant began the plans for a parish school. Two frame buildings were purchased to be used as the first parish school, and the present rectory was built during his pastorate.

Father Bussant succeeded Father Bernard Glynn and it was under his direction that the famous spire of the church, reaching to a height of 225 feet, was erected.

It was during the pastorate of Father Clement Lowrey that the church building was almost completely destroyed by the worst storm in the history of Galveston in 1900.

After five years, Father Lowrey was succeeded by Father John S. Murphy, whose pastorate lasted until his death on January 1, 1945. During Father Murphy's time, the church steeple was restored and a new school built.

Since his death, the church has been entirely renovated, and beautiful stained glass windows have been installed. A new wing comprising a larger cafeteria space and extra classrooms has been added to the school building.

The school which is taught by the Ursuline Sisters now has an enrollment of 721 children.

A new rectory is among the many projects planned for St. Patrick's Parish in the near future. Father John Ruddy is administrator at the present time.

Holy Rosary

GALVESTON

Holy Rosary was the first church in Texas built for the exclusive use of Catholic Negroes, and the first school established for Catholic Negro children in the state. Holy Rosary had the unique honor of having a bishop as its first pastor. Founded in 1888, as a mission of St. Mary's Cathedral, the late Bishop Nicholas Gallagher acted as pastor. The few colored Catholics in Galveston in the eighties attended St. Mary's Cathedral.

In 1886 with the co-operation of the Dominican Sisters, Bishop Gallagher opened a school in a cottage on the corner of 12th Street and Avenue K. This was the seed from which Holy Rosary Parish sprang.

Father Philip Keller, who left his native Germany for the sole purpose of working among Negroes, assumed charge of Holy Rosary in the year of 1889. Two years after his arrival, he placed the little parish on a firm foundation by building a suitable church.

The church was solemnly blessed by Bishop Gallagher on the first Sunday of October, 1893. Father Keller equipped a little cottage which served as the rectory until the 1900 storm, when it was so badly damaged that it had to be replaced by a new building.

During his twenty-four years at Holy Rosary, Father Keller laid a very substantial foundation. The present church, rectory, and convent are fitting memorials to his zeal and energy.

After Father Keller's departure in 1913, the care of Holy Rosary was given to the Josephite Fathers: Fathers Charles Gately, William Murphy, Charles E. Reilly and Andrew J. Fitzpatrick, each contributing his share towards the upbuilding of the parish. In 1914, the church, along with the other buildings, was moved from its original site on 25th Street and Avenue I to its present location on the corner of 31st Street and Avenue N. The parish enrollment is 1100 souls.

Holy Rosary School owes its foundation to the Dominican Sisters of Galveston. The school opened in October, 1886, in a small cottage. After two years Bishop Gallagher found it necessary to provide a new building.

Galveston Deanery

On September 15, 1898, the school was taken over by the Sisters of the Holy Family. In the year of their arrival, Father Keller, with the assistance of Mother Katherine Drexel, built and organized Holy Rosary Industrial School. This institution was intended to be a school of domestic arts, as well as an orphanage for homeless girls. In 1927, a high school curriculum was added to the school program. In September, 1928, the students and the faculty moved into a new and well equipped building.

Father Narcise Denis, S.S.J., is the present pastor.

Our Lady Star of the Sea

FREEPORT

In 1926, Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, Bishop of Galveston, formed the parish of Freeport and appointed Father L. A. Sampson resident pastor. Prior to the coming of Father Sampson, the Catholic men organized a Building Committee and with the approval and advice of Bishop Byrne this committee erected the present church and later purchased the rectory. Father Sampson was succeeded by Father George Elmendorf who was pastor from 1928 to July, 1935. His successor, Father John T. Geiser, was pastor until March, 1937.

Since 1941 the Freeport parish buildings have met with many setbacks. They have been damaged or completely demolished, twice by hurricane and once by tornado. However, each time they have been repaired and replaced.

During the war years the Freeport pastor was military and naval chaplain for the Freeport-Velasco-Angleton-Alvin District. The Freeport Church served as a Post Chapel. Other parish facilities were given over to the use of servicemen in the Brazoria County area. Prior to December, 1945, the pastor of Freeport was the only resident priest in Brazoria County.

A school and convent, the first such in Brazoria County, and a new church and rectory are planned for Freeport. The project will cost approximately \$250,000. A new church is also planned in Brazoria for the Catholic families there.

Our Lady of Guadalupe

GALVESTON

The Mexican people of Galveston for many years prior to the establishment of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish were in the charge of Msgr. J. S. Murphy of St. Patrick's Parish.

A school for the Mexican children was opened on September 17, 1917, at 39th Street and Avenue H. In 1925, a substantial building was opened and has since served the Mexican children.

The church, a wooden structure donated by St. Patrick's Parish, is a temporary building, and plans are being made for a new church.

The Ursuline Sisters are in charge of the school; the Oblate Fathers have charge of the parish.

Our Lady of the Snows

TEXAS CITY

Our Lady of the Snows, Mission of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Galveston, was built for the Mexican residents of Texas City by the Rev. Thomas A. Carney with a donation of \$1475 from the Catholic Church Extension Society. Property for the church was given by Mr. W. P. Tarpey, and the church was finished in October, 1938.

Furnishings for the church were donated and the pews were those of the old St. Mary's Church in Texas City, donated by the Shrine of the True Cross, Dickinson.

When the church was completed, Bishop Byrne placed it in charge of the Oblate Fathers and formally dedicated it to Our Lady of the Snows. The pastor of the Shrine of the True Cross in Dickinson, Father Carney, turned it over to the Oblates free of debt.

A plaque is erected in the church to the memory of Mary Hannah Grix whose generosity made the church possible.

Galveston Deanery

Missions in Brazoria

A group of German immigrants settled in 1840 in the then thriving city of Brazoria which at that time was the social capital of the Republic of Texas. Accompanying this group was a priest, Father Jacob Wiser. With the assistance of some Irish plantation owners, the newcomers built a little frame church, which also housed their priest, and dedicated it to St. Joseph. Two years later, in 1840 a beautiful brick church and rectory were erected.

The records of the Brazoria church are preserved in the rectory at Freeport.

Father Wiser was succeeded by Father James Miller who ministered to the Catholics of Brazoria, Velasco, Fort Quintana and surrounding territory from 1848 to 1858. Up to the fall of 1900 the following priests labored in these Brazoria Missions: Fathers George Beersneider; Pacificus Maria, O.F.M.; Augustine D'Asiti, O.F.M.; G. M. Giraud; P. Berthet; Charles Gregenbuhl, W. Weinzsephen; G. Blum; C. Clair; and Joseph P. Keaney*. During the passage of the years the beautiful St. Joseph's Church at Brazoria was demolished three times by hurricanes. It was rebuilt twice by the faithful pioneers.

The dreadful 1900 storm sounded the death-knell to their spacious church. In that awful hurricane of many tragedies, Father Joseph P. Keaney was drowned in the Velasco Hotel. After the destructive hurricane, most of the Catholic families moved away. The remaining parishioners erected a little frame church on the site of the older more beautiful one.

From 1900 to 1926 the following Fathers labored in the Brazoria County missions: Fathers John S. Murphy, John T. Nicholson, M. M. Crowe, George Montreuil, A. G. Grattan, J. Schnetzer, J. B. O'Leary, J. J. Kearns, M. J. Murray, and M. J. O'Regan.

VELASCO

In 1892 the first church was erected. It was destroyed during the 1900 hurricane. It was rebuilt only to be again destroyed in a similar manner in July, 1909. In May, 1911, a new church was built under the direction of Father Montreuil. In 1929, during the pastorate of Father Elmendorf it was dismantled, and from the salvaged lumber a parish hall was constructed at Freeport.

ANGLETON

Sacred Heart Church was erected in 1909 under the supervision of Father Montreuil. It was destroyed by a hurricane that year. Many years later, Father Elmendorf built a little church there which met with a like fate in 1932.

St. John the Baptist

ALVIN

St. John the Baptist Church of Alvin was built in 1917 with the aid of the Extension Society of America. It serves the need of the English and Spanish-speaking people in that locality. Formerly attached to the Immaculate Conception of Houston, it is now under the care of the Oblate Fathers of Galveston.

Plans are under way to replace the old church with a new one in the near future.

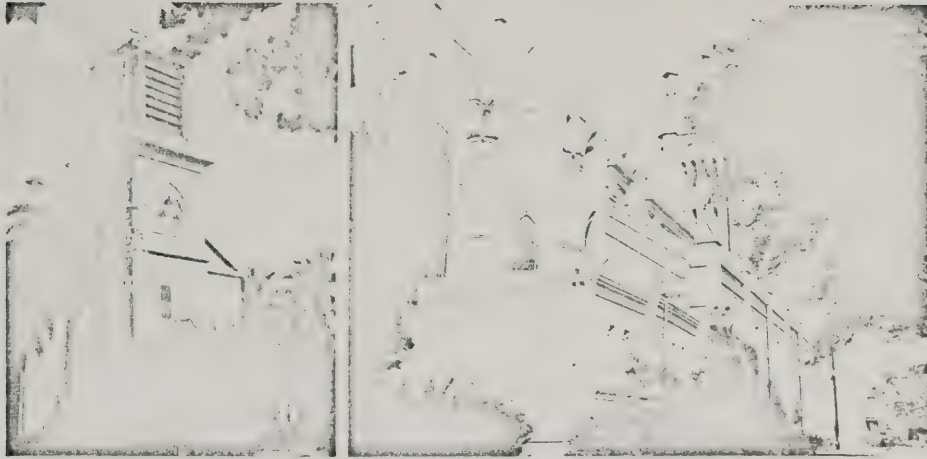
(Continued On Page 55)

Galveston Deanery



ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL
Galveston, Texas

Galveston Deanery



*St. Joseph's
Holy Rosary*

Sacred Heart

*St. Patrick's
Our Lady of Guadalupe*

Galveston Deanery



St. Mary's, Texas City

Shrine of the True Cross, Dickinson

Our Lady of the Snows, Texas City

St. Henry's, Freeport

St. John the Baptist, Alvin

Houston Deanery



St. Joseph's

Annunciation

St. Patrick's

Houston Deanery

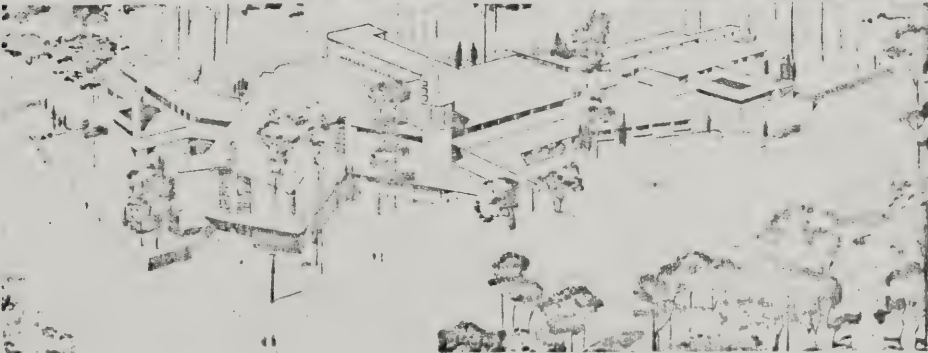


Sacred Heart

St. Anne's

St. Mary's

Houston Deanery



Our Mother of Mercy
Old St. Vincent's

Immaculate Conception

St. Christopher's
Our Lady of Guadalupe

St. Theresa of the Little Flower

Houston Deanery

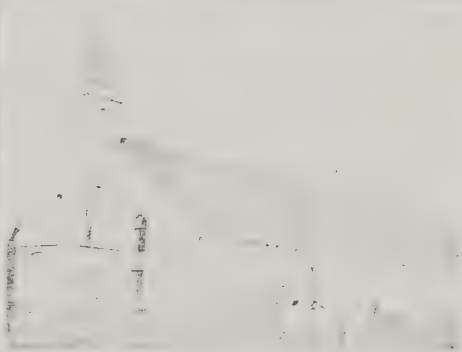


St. Stephen's
St. Michael's Mission

All Saints

St. Anne de Beaupre Mission
St. Vincent de Paul

Houston Deanery



*Christ the King
Blessed Sacrament
St. Peter, the Apostle
Holy Rosary*

*St. Nicholas'
Our Lady of Sorrows
Resurrection
Immaculate Heart of Mary*

Galveston Deanery

Shrine of the True Cross

DICKINSON

Celebrating its fiftieth anniversary, the history of the Shrine of the True Cross at Dickinson finds its beginning with the missionary labors of traveling apostles. Today a pastor and three assistants minister to a large population of Catholics in five districts so organized that each has its own church and regular services on Sundays and weekdays, while all are bound closely to the mother church at Dickinson.

The distinguished names of Fathers Bernard Lee, Ed A. Kelly, Morgan Crowe, Thomas Hennessey and Jerome Rapp appear frequently on the records in the early missionary period. And the illustrious name of Father Henry Rops leads the list of Oblate and secular priests who served as resident priests in the formative days.

At the death of Father Rops, the parish church at Dickinson was still known as St. Joseph's. It served League City, Hitchcock and Texas City. The church at Dickinson has been changed to the Shrine of the True Cross and is a large modern structure built of brick, tile and stucco. It enjoys the privilege of affiliation with the Basilica of the True Cross of Jerusalem in Rome. It still serves League City and Hitchcock, and, in addition, churches that have been opened at La Marque and Alta Loma. A modern parish school was opened in September, 1946, with a capacity attendance of 153 pupils.

The teaching Sisters of St. Mary of Namur have succeeded the missionary Sisters of Atonement since the opening of the parochial school, with Sister Justin as Superior and Principal.

Father Thomas A. Carney has been pastor for the past twelve years. He is ably assisted by Fathers Frank A. Lagana and E. Cary Fowler, and over week-ends by Father Vincent Harris, J.C.L., of the diocesan seminary.

St. Mary's of the Miraculous Medal

TEXAS CITY

The first Holy Mass was offered in Texas City in 1907 in the International Longshoreman's Hall, by Father J. A. Rapp. In 1911, Bishop N. A. Gallagher dedicated the first church, which was served by the Oblate Fathers of Galveston, Father Rops and then Father Lang, until 1921, when Father Michael Leahy was appointed resident pastor.

In about 1927 the church at Dickinson was established. Father Leahy was transferred there and the Texas City church became a mission of Dickinson.

In 1943 the old frame church was completely demolished by a hurricane. On March 8, 1945, His Excellency, the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, dedicated the present beautiful Spanish-style church.

The first resident priest was the present pastor, Father William F. Roach who was appointed July 1, 1945. Plans are being made now for a complete parish unit of convent, school and rectory.

Houston Deanery

Annunciation

HOUSTON

On April 25, 1869, the cornerstone of the Annunciation Church was laid by Bishop C. M. Dubuis. Father J. Querat was the first pastor of the parish. At that time St. Vincent's Church became the parish of the German Catholics of the city.

One of the well-known personages of the day, Algernon P. Thompson, a hero of the Battle of San Jacinto, was a member of the committee of arrangements for the laying of the cornerstone. Judge Thompson was buried from Annunciation in 1871.

In 1871 a tower bell was installed and consecrated in honor of St. Gabriel. For seventy-eight years this bell has rung the Angelus and called the faithful to Mass from the old tower.

The Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament opened their motherhouse next to the church on November 15, 1873.

In 1878 St. Vincent's was closed and upon the resignation of Father Querat as pastor of Annunciation, Father Thomas Hennessy became pastor. For thirty-five years Father Hennessy guided the destinies of Annunciation, and as Dean of the district he was a leader in all spiritual and civic improvements. He was responsible in great part for the first work among the colored Catholics of the city and in the opening of St. Joseph's Infirmary. At that time probably no priest in the city's history, and perhaps no other man, had the complete confidence and trust of the people of all denominations as did Father Hennessy. There are old residents still living who refer to Annunciation as "Father Hennessy's Church."

St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's Churches were established in 1880, the first of many to be erected from Annunciation Parish. In 1884 the present towers were added to the church.

The present school building was finished in 1906, and in 1910, the pastor refinished the exterior of the church.

Father Hennessy died November 13, 1913, and was succeeded by Father George T. Walsh, who in the following year built the present rectory.

Due to the proximity to the Armistice of World

War I the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the parish was postponed until 1922. On that occasion a Solemn Pontifical Mass was sung by Bishop Byrne, followed by a dinner at the Bender, now the San Jacinto, Hotel. In the evening a civic celebration was staged at the Rice Hotel, which included musical numbers and speeches by the Bishop and prominent laymen, both Catholic and non-Catholic.

In 1924 Father Walsh installed the fine Pilecher pipe organ now in use.

At a cost of over \$10,000 a marble shrine in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help was installed in the church in 1925, a gift of Mrs. Bess Burkitt Crane and her brother, the late George Burkitt, in memory of their parents, George W. and Mary Hartley Burkitt. The grandfather of the donors, William Hartley, then not a convert, had donated the original lumber used for building Annunciation Church.

The shrine is of Italian marble, and the gem-studded picture of Our Lady was touched to the original in Rome. One of the stained glass windows in the shrine, that of Our Lady, is world famous and the other, St. John, is the only one of its kind known to be in this country. Both were executed by Charles Conic of Boston.

After Monsignor Walsh's death November 23, 1933, Father Thomas F. Hogan was appointed pastor and during his tenure many improvements were made, among them the refinishing of the exterior and redecoration of the interior, the latter after the installation of a concrete floor and air-conditioning of the church edifice.

Father Anton Frank became pastor in succession to Father Hogan in September, 1943, and has since added many improvements to the church property.

In the priests' sacristy there hangs a painting, the "Pieta," which antedates 1650, and is the work of one of the Italian masters; this was bequeathed to the Church by Monsignor Walsh and was recently restored by the eminent artist, Rudolf Guzzardi of Houston and New York.

The Diamond Jubilee of the parish was appropriately celebrated on April 25, 1944, in the presence of the Most Reverend Robert E. Lucey, Archbishop of San Antonio, Christopher E.

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Byrne, Bishop of Galveston, and M. S. Garriga, Coadjutor of Corpus Christi.

The officers of the Solemn Mass, Right Reverend George Wilhelm, and Fathers M. J. Leahy, and Arthur Crann, as well as the preacher, Right Reverend James T. Fleming, were all former assistants at Annunciation.

A feature of the occasion was the historical display at the entry of the church. Houston's first church bell, cast in this city, for the old St. Vincent's Church, was the center of the display. Historical information on Annunciation and the old St. Vincent's Parishes was posted on placards. At the suggestion of Bishop Byrne, placards to show the growth of the Church were prepared for each church and institution now existent in the city.

The following members of the parish have become priests: Thomas L. Dobyns, C.S.B.; Joseph M. Rick, C.S.C.; Paul C. Pieri; Bernard Marino, and Homer Perkins.

Annunciation merits the title of "Mother Church of Houston" not only because she took up where the original St. Vincent's left off but because of the zeal of her pastors. Father Thomas Hennessy brought about the establishment of St. Joseph's, St. Patrick's, Sacred Heart, Blessed Sacrament and St. Nicholas' Parishes, welcomed and encouraged the Basilian Fathers who established St. Thomas' College, to mention a few of his many works for God and the spread of His Kingdom. His successor, Monsignor Walsh, helped the Sisters of the Good Shepherd establish their institution here, and assisted greatly in the beginnings of the Catholic Women's Club and the Mexican, now San Jose, Clinic. Father T. F. Hogan was instrumental in moving the Garden of Gethsemani Cemetery to its present fine location.

St. Patrick's

HOUSTON

About 1880, a number of Catholics living in the Fifth Ward called upon Father Hennessy at Annunciation Church and requested him to assist them in an effort to obtain a church and school. Father Hennessy lent his most zealous co-operation, and with the approbation of the Most Reverend Bishop, a site was purchased, and in a few months, a small, neat church was erected and dedicated to St. Patrick. This was followed by the opening of the school. Mother Gabriel purchased a lot near the church and in September, 1897, the school was opened and taught by the Sisters from the Incarnate Word Academy.

For some time, St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's had but one pastor, the Rev. James Grabinger, who served both churches, going from one to the other every Sunday. Later, each of the parishes had a separate pastor, the Reverend Father Thomas McGrady being appointed first pastor of St. Patrick's.

Father Thomas McGrady was succeeded by the Rev. D. Logue, who in 1889 had the church enlarged and remodeled. All the buildings were destroyed on May 20, 1890, by one of the Fifth Ward fires that have proved so disastrous to St. Patrick's Parish. A large shed was rented and this served as a church until a building combining church and school was erected. This, too, was burned to the ground on May 20, 1892.

The foundations of a brick church had been laid in 1891, and although far from complete, the new church was pressed into use before the end of the year 1892. The work of finishing the new church fell to the Rev. J. S. Murphy.

Henceforth, the school buildings were to be parish property. A frame building consisting of two classrooms, was soon built, and the Sisters resumed their work. Some years later, during the pastorate of the Rev. M. M. Crowe, another classroom and a music room were added to the building. In 1907, the Reverend Father I. M. Haughran built a large brick building, but on February 20, 1912, church, school, and parochial residence were reduced to ashes. Soon, a two-story building, combining church and school, was built and made ready for use on November 12, 1912, by Father

Haughran. A substantial rectory has also been erected.

Other pastors have been the Reverends John B. O'Leary, Bernard Lee, M. J. Daly, Michael O'Reagan, and George B. Black.

On February 16, 1941, the Oblate Fathers took over St. Patrick's Parish. The school, which had been closed for two years, was reopened in September, 1941, under the direction of the Sisters of Divine Providence. Sister Mary Dolores came as Superior with two other Sisters and a lay teacher and has remained to the present time. The present pastor is the Rev. Laurence A. Ferrero, O.M.I.; and the Rev. James Conway, O.M.I., is assistant pastor.

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St. Joseph's HOUSTON

St. Joseph's Parish, one of the oldest now in the city of Houston, was established in 1880 by the Most Reverend C. M. Dubuis, second Bishop of Galveston, with Father James Grabinger as the first pastor.

Father A. Maury was appointed pastor in December, 1885, and was succeeded by Father J. B. Quinlan, S. J., October 9, 1895. Father Maury remained pastor until Father Thomas F. Banfield was appointed in August, 1896. Father Banfield remained pastor for forty-two years, until his death in September, 1938; and the present pastor, Father J. P. Sullivan, was appointed January 15, 1939. Fathers V. A. Surcek, J. B. O'Leary and John D. Connolly served as administrators before the death of Father Banfield.

The original frame structure met with destruction in the 1900 storm. The only thing saved from the church wreckage was a statue of the Sacred Heart which is now in the Sanctuary. The present brick structure was erected in 1901.

The first church bell cast in Houston was the historic one installed in the old St. Vincent de Paul Church in 1843. This bell, after being transferred to Annunciation Church when St. Vincent's was closed, was given to St. Joseph's in 1881. It was this bell that rang out at St. Joseph's as a warning to the neighbors of the approaching 1900 storm.

The interior of the church has a large collection of oil paintings, including the "Crucifixion Scene" above the altar. This main altar of marble was imported from Italy. St. Joseph's is also the proud owner of an Estey organ which was on display during the World Fair in St. Louis.

The parish school has been attended by many prominent Catholic and non-Catholic Houstonians. Throughout its sixty-six years of existence, the school has had the Incarnate Word Sisters in charge of teaching, with a present enrollment of 462 pupils.

The present school building, erected in 1922, consists of eight classrooms, an auditorium and a cafeteria.

The parish rectory is an attractive white colonial two-story house with spreading verandas. Fathers George F. Rabroker and Robert Gradel are the assistants.

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Sacred Heart HOUSTON

Sacred Heart Parish was originally a part of Annunciation Parish, but in 1897, under Bishop N. A. Gallagher, it became an independent parish under its present title, Sacred Heart.

This new parish, the fourth to be established in Houston, was placed in charge of Father Thomas Keaney. The first building, a frame structure located on the corner of San Jacinto Street and Pierce Avenue, was a combination church and school. The cornerstone was laid on Sunday, May 16, 1897.

Father Bernard Lee succeeded Father Keaney, who having been transferred to the Gulf Coast lost his life in the 1900 storm. Father Lee was pastor until November 10, 1901, when he was sent to Palestine.

Father John T. Nicholson was then appointed pastor of Sacred Heart Church. He built the present church whose cornerstone was laid on June 11, 1911. The church was dedicated less than a year later, on April 14, 1912.

His successor was Father Morgan Crowe who built the present rectory and school. The new school was solemnly dedicated during the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the parish. The Do-

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minican Sisters have been in charge of Sacred Heart School since its beginning in 1897.

Father Jerome A. Rapp succeeded Father Crowe as pastor in August, 1927, and for a year and a half he continued teaching at the seminary in La Porte.

All the interior work of Sacred Heart Church was done under the guidance and supervision of Father Rapp. He was honored by the Holy Father in December, 1943, as Domestic Prelate, receiving his prelatical robes June 16, 1944, which day marked his thirty-seventh anniversary as a priest and his seventeenth as pastor of Sacred Heart.

St. Anne's

HOUSTON

Twenty-one years ago, January 1, 1925, His Excellency, Bishop C. E. Byrne directed Father J. J. O'Reilly to organize a parish in the western section of Houston under the patronage of St. Anne. Three years later Bishop Byrne invited the Basilian Fathers to carry on the work at St. Anne's. Fathers J. J. Glavin, T. P. O'Rourke and J. B. Walsh have successively been appointed pastors, and each has contributed significantly in erecting the buildings needed to provide for the spiritual wants of the people. In 1928 the present site was purchased and immediately the parish hall was built and used as a temporary church.

The present church, a gem of Spanish mission architecture was completed in 1940. Its interior is made up of seven chapels, each chapel symbolizing one of the seven sacraments.

In 1930 the original school was built which provided adequate classroom space for the elementary grades. Last year, 1946, an addition equal in size to the original school was dedicated. Thirteen Sisters of Divine Providence conduct the school which has a present enrollment of 576.

St. Michael's Church on Post Oak Road is a mission church and is cared for by the priests of St. Anne's.

The present staff consists of Very Reverend J. B. Walsh, C.S.B., pastor; Fathers J. V. Burke, C.S.B.; L. J. Lacey, C.S.B.; and Walter Sullivan, C.S.B., assistants.

Holy Rosary

HOUSTON

The Most Reverend Nicholas A. Gallagher, D.D., Bishop of Galveston, assigned the newly formed Holy Rosary Parish to the care of the Dominican Fathers of the Province of St. Joseph of the United States, on March 1, 1913. Father Raphael Augustine La Plante, O.P., was designated by the Provincial, Very Reverend M. L. Heagan, O.P., and appointed the first pastor by His Excellency, Bishop Gallagher.

Holy Rosary had its humble beginning in a private house on the corner of Milam and McGregor Streets.

By September of that year, Father La Plante was able to move into a new two-story building. Six large, airy classrooms were on the second floor. The first floor was used as a temporary church, with a seating capacity of 400.

Early in 1918 Father E. J. Farmer, O.P., succeeded Father La Plante, O.P., as pastor but because of ill health remained only one and one-half years. Father W. G. Scanlon, O.P., became pastor in June, 1919, and during his three years of office added a seventh grade to the school as well as a library. Father F. B. Gorman, O. P., became pastor in 1923, and was succeeded in turn by Father P. A. Maher, O.P.

In 1930 Father Martin McDermott, O.P., became pastor and with the same enthusiastic zeal of his predecessors continued to raise funds for the needed new buildings. In 1932 His Excellency, Bishop C. E. Byrne, D.D., gave the permission to build. Ground was broken on the Feast of St. Albert the Great, November 15. On February 6, 1933, the Most Reverend Bishop of Galveston, C. E. Byrne, D.D., blessed the altar site and laid the cornerstone. His Excellency dedicated the church on November 15, 1933.

Father Henry F. Dugan, O.P., who became pastor in 1936, launched the Liturgical movement in the parish.

After Father Dugan's death, Father F. L. Vander Heyden, O.P., was appointed pastor in 1941. During his six years the church was cleared of debt and improvements were made.

At present the parish numbers above 2000 souls.

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Blessed Sacrament

HOUSTON

As early as 1904 Father Hennessy of Annunciation Church arranged for tent services to test the possibility of a parish in the eastern section of the city. 1906, Father J. Schnetzer, in charge of the southwestern missions of the Diocese with headquarters at Annunciation, was assigned to watch the growth of this section. Though the Catholic census was small, in the spring of 1908 Bishop Gallagher determined parish lines and suggested the name of Blessed Sacrament in consideration of the solicitude of Pope Pius X about early and frequent Holy Communion.

With six lots donated by the John T. Brady family and 100,000 bricks furnished by Sherman Brady, a building was begun in 1909 and dedicated on April 3, 1910. Comprising four classrooms, pastor's study and teacher's lounge on the first floor, this two-story building had a chapel above.

The free parochial school opened in September, 1910. Sisters of the Incarnate Word were the teachers and the school became the heart of the parish.

After the outbreak of World War I, cottages began to dot Brady Place and the barren prairie known as Eastwood. The struggling little parish built a rectory, and later additional property was acquired at different times for school and playground. At present the parish has almost two full blocks.

From the meager attendance in its first years the church gradually filled to capacity, and in 1923 plans were undertaken for a new building. The parishioners assured the pastor by their interest, and even the children helped to raise the money. The new church was dedicated by Bishop Byrne on October 12, 1924.

The transfer from the old to the new church provided a hall and additional classrooms. By 1928, with the school attendance up to 300, a wing with three more classrooms and assembly hall was added to the building.

The newly erected Villa de Matel was attached to the parish as a chaplaincy for about two years, and Father S. Kmiecik became the first assistant pastor. Assistants have come and gone but

the pastor has remained.

Father Schnetzer was honored with the purple of Domestic Prelate in 1931, shortly after receiving the office of diocesan school superintendent.

Building plans were cut short in 1945, but the essential preliminaries, an eighth grade classroom, a modern school cafeteria, and a three-room lounge were built. The original plan of a large parish hall for the youth, a convent and a new rectory are still under contemplation. The school in 1946 enrolled 350 pupils in eight grades.

Holy Name

HOUSTON

Holy Name Parish comprises that part of the city of Houston known as the North Side. It extends eastward from Little White Oak Bayou and northward from the Southern Pacific tracks to and beyond the city limits.

The first definite move to establish Holy Name Parish took place in the spring of 1919 when the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, Bishop of Galveston, granted permission to Father Bernard Lee to acquire property for the new parish. On April 21, 1920, the final contract was signed for the H. C. House block, and a temporary structure was built. On Sunday afternoon, May 1, 1921, the Bishop formally dedicated the Church of the Holy Name and appointed as pastor the Rev. G. A. Wilhelm of Palestine. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered for the first time on Ascension Thursday of the same year.

The parish increased so rapidly that it was necessary to erect a larger church. So on March 15, 1925, the cornerstone was laid in sacred ceremony by the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, assisted by Msgr. J. M. Kirwin.

The school was established in 1925 by the Sisters of the Incarnate Word with seven sisters and one lay teacher.

Holy Name was the first church in the Diocese to have public devotions in honor of St. Francis Xavier Cabrini.

During the present illness of Monsignor Wilhelm, Father J. J. Cassata is administrator of Holy Name Parish, assisted by Father C. P. Flynn and Martin Enderle.

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All Saints

HOUSTON

Early in the year 1908, Most Reverend N. A. Gallagher commissioned Father George T. Walsh to organize a new parish, to be known as All Saints, in the Houston Heights.

In April, 1908, the Knights of Pythias gave Father Walsh permission to offer Mass in their hall each Sunday, until the cornerstone of the original All Saints Church was laid in the spring of 1909. The church was dedicated by Bishop Gallagher in August, 1909.

Father Walsh served as pastor of All Saints from the time of its creation until January, 1914, when he was appointed pastor of Annunciation. He was succeeded by Father John Gallagher.

Father John O'Reilly later was appointed as administrator of the parish, and served in this capacity until 1916, when Father John B. O'Leary was appointed pastor.

During Father O'Leary's pastorate, he was assisted successively by Father J. P. McCarthy and Father P. J. O'Reilly. Bishop Byrne appointed Father Robert C. Frei to succeed Father O'Leary in 1924.

During the pastorate of Father Frei the first church was replaced by the present edifice, and a new rectory built. The convent was also acquired during his pastorate.

Assistant pastors under Father Frei were Fathers C. J. Martin, F. Urbanowsky, Chas. J. Kunc, Thomas A. Ryan, Bernard Roemer, L. J. LeBlanc, Stephen Brown, John Leahy, Edward Geiser, Chas. McNally, John Witucki, Lawrence Kramer and Robert Fuchs.

Father Kramer served as administrator of All Saints Parish from the time of the death of Father Frei in July, 1943, until October, 1943, when the present pastor Father Thomas O'Sullivan was appointed by Bishop Byrne. Father O'Sullivan was at first assisted by Father Robert Fuchs and Father Polansky, the latter recently transferred and succeeded by Father John Perusina.

The parish of All Saints comprises about 600 families. The parochial school of more than 350 pupils is served by Dominican Sisters.

Immaculate Conception

HOUSTON

In October, 1911, the Oblate Fathers began the parish of the Immaculate Conception in Magnolia Park at the request of the Bishop of the Diocese of Galveston, Most Reverend N. A. Gallagher, D.D., as well as the actual foundation of this parish.

The responsibility of looking after the penitentiary at Huntsville and the prison farms was also assumed by the Fathers.

One year after the Oblate Fathers arrived, in October, 1912, the first church, a frame building, was solemnly dedicated by the Most Reverend N. A. Gallagher, D.D. In that same year a school was opened under the direction of the Sisters of Divine Providence and now has an enrollment of nearly 400 children.

Due to the increasing population and the growing needs of the parish, it was felt necessary to have a larger structure and so on September 27, 1936, the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne solemnly dedicated the new combination church and school building. This modern fireproof school contains eight classrooms and a library.

The old two-story school has been converted into an auditorium to serve until a new church is built.

At present the missions at Humble and Tomball are also taken care of by the priests of this parish.

Father J. N. Pelletier, O.M.I., was the first pastor of Immaculate Conception. He served as pastor until 1919, when he was succeeded by Father J. A. Bornes, O.M.I. Other pastors have been the Oblate Fathers A. P. Fletcher, P. A. Lewis, C. Haas, J. M. Laurent, F. A. Hullweg and T. Kennedy.

Father Vincent Liberto, O.M.I., has been pastor since 1943; and the present assistants are Fathers J. M. Laurent, O.M.I.; F. A. Duffy, O.M.I.; E. F. Brauman, O.M.I.; and P. A. Keane, O.M.I.

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Resurrection

HOUSTON

Records reveal that on Easter Sunday, April 4, 1920, a group of pioneers gathered under the oaks with the Reverend Fathers Bernard Lee, founder, Henry Rops and Henie of St. Louis to discuss plans for building a church for the faithful of Denver-Harbor Addition. These people had very little money but they were determined to build a church.

A block of ground was donated by Mrs. Nora Howard, and men of the parish did the manual labor on the church while women and children did odd jobs. So, on Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 1920, the Church of the Resurrection, a white frame building thirty-five feet by fifty feet, completely free of debt was dedicated by Bishop C. E. Byrne. The first Mass was celebrated by Father Lee.

The church remained at this location until 1924, when Father Lee, perceiving the need of a larger plot of ground, bought the block at Market and Majestic Street, and moved the church to the new location. Later, the Rev. M. J. Daly was appointed pastor.

In the fall of 1926, the church was completely destroyed by fire. The present church was erected in the spring of 1927. Father Daly and Father Sampson were at St. Patrick's Church, and each Sunday one of them would say Mass at Resurrection. When Father George Black succeeded Father Daly, he too, continued to take care of the needs of his mission.

In 1931, the Rev. Florence J. O'Connor was made the first resident pastor and he built the garage apartment which served as a rectory. Father T. A. Ryan and Father Matthew Killorn were pastors for a few months each.

In June, 1936, Father Henry Parmentier came from New Waverly and by September the congregation had grown. The sanctuary and rectory were remodeled and the church was enlarged so that the capacity was doubled. In September, 1937, the school was opened and four Sisters of St. Mary came from Ft. Worth to teach; and in August, 1941, a convent was built next to the school.

Father Parmentier is now helping to organize a parish in Galena Park for the Catholics in that vicinity who have been attending Resurrection.

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Christ the King

HOUSTON

Christ the King Parish was founded in February, 1928, by Father Joseph H. Kelly. The congregation then met in Hogg School and later in the Polish Hall located at 6th Street and Studewood.

The original little church was erected in thirty days, as were a combination garage and rectory. This has now been enlarged to accommodate nine Sisters of St. Dominic.

On August 15, 1928, Father James Patrick McCarthy, the present pastor, was sent to continue the work of Father Kelly who, because of ill health moved to California and died there in 1930. Father McCarthy's first task was to build a school. The little church located on Melwood was moved to the rear in order to make room for the present school. The school was completed in November, 1930.

The first Mass was celebrated in the new school building on the second floor on November 1. The first floor served as classrooms for 125 students taught by five Dominican Sisters. The number of students increased and the old church was made into two more classrooms.

Ten years later in 1940 the present church was built to accommodate 600. This will later be used as a parish hall when the new church is built.

Father McCarthy has as his assistants, Fathers Bruno Skweres and Peter Harnett.

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St. Christopher's

HOUSTON

Prior to the year 1922 Holy Mass was said in Park Place only at intervals. Mass was usually said on the first Friday of the month by the Rev. Father Peter Tonson, Superior of the Oblate Fathers in Houston. Mass was said in the homes of three Catholic families in Park Place.

The Park Place Catholic Association was formed and after considerable investigation a

(Continued On Page 71)

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Queen of Peace

Holy Name

St. Rose of Lima

Houston Deanery



*St. Martin's, Crosby
Sacred Heart, Conroe*

St. Pius', Pasadena

St. Joseph's, Baytown

*Sacred Heart, Crosby
Sacred Heart, Little York*

Beaumont Deanery



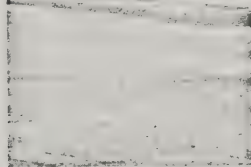
Our Mother of Mercy, Beaumont

St. Anthony's, Beaumont

St. Anne's, Beaumont

Blessed Sacrament, Beaumont

Beaumont Deanery



St. Mary's, Port Arthur

St. James', Port Arthur

Beaumont Deanery



St. Mary's, Orange

St. Theresa's, Orange

Little Flower's, Port Acres

Immaculate Conception, Groves

Waco Deanery



Assumption, Waco

Assumption, West

Waco Deanery



St. Mary's, Lampasas

St. Joseph's, Marlin

Waco Deanery



Our Lady of Pilar, Marlin

St. Francis on the Brazos, Waco

St. Rita, Satin

Our Mother of Sorrows, Burnet

St. Mary's, Calvert

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tract of land consisting of five homesites in what is known as the Heart of Park Place was selected. This location was purchased on January 17, 1923, the anniversary of the first meeting of the Association.

While the work of establishing the parish was progressing, Father Tounson said Mass on Sundays in the Park Place school auditorium, and every Sunday afternoon the Sisters of the Incarnate Word Convent came to teach Sunday School at the same place.

Later, Father L. J. Reicher, Chancellor of the Diocese, came from Galveston to say Mass on Sundays and Holydays.

On March 27, 1924, the contract was let to erect the first unit of the building to be used as a church until such time as the growth of the parish made it possible to build the church proper. As time went on a new church had to be built to take care of the ever increasing population of the parish. The school opened in 1939 with about fifty children enrolled, under the care of the Dominican Sisters. A school building was added to the original unit in 1940.

By the year 1941, St. Christopher's had grown, and the Bishop then saw that it would be necessary for the parish to have a resident pastor. Consequently, Bishop Byrne appointed Father E. K. Fulkerson as pastor to succeed Monsignor Reicher, on July 6, 1941. In October of the same year the parish completed a new rectory. Three years later a convent was obtained for the sisters.

One boy who grew up in St. Christopher's Parish, Father Vincent Harris, is a priest, and two others are seminarians.

St. Mary's of the Purification

HOUSTON

The property located in the southeast end of the city contains five acres and was purchased in March, 1929. The present church was the first unit. It was built with the intention of converting it later into a parish recreation hall. The present church (future hall) was completed and the first Mass was celebrated in the building on November 10, 1929. It was solemnly dedicated on December 15, 1929.

In 1930 a temporary school building was erected and opened on September 8 of that year. The first enrollment listed thirty-five pupils; Sister Juliana, of the Sisters of St. Dominic, was in charge of the new school and she still holds the same position. It is under her care and guidance that St. Mary's School has grown from a small frame building with a handful of pupils to the present fine modern structure fully equipped and accommodating 250 pupils. On October 27, 1937, the blessing of the new school took place.

In 1933 St. Mary's rectory was built and the priests moved out of the sacristy of the church.

By the end of 1945 St. Mary's Parish was completely out of debt. And in the early part of 1946 work began on the many improvements recently completed at St. Mary's, among them a new convent, enlargement of the school, new cafeteria, garages, and accommodations for the help. These improvements cost \$100,000.

Queen of Peace

HOUSTON

Queen of Peace Parish traces its beginning as an Oblate Mission under the direction of Father Cullen F. Deckert, O.M.I. Soon afterwards, Father Joseph Laux, O.M.I., took charge and Mass was said in a Community Hall. In 1936 the grounds were purchased and on January 17, 1937, the present Queen of Peace Chapel was blessed. Father Laux remained until June, 1941, when Father Edward Kennedy, O.M.I., and Father Daniel Lynch, O.M.I., took charge until the following year.

On July 5, 1942, Queen of Peace was made a separate parish with Father M. C. Notzon as pastor.

In September, 1944, an additional four-acre tract of land was purchased for expansion of the parish. Recently the capacity of the church was doubled by incorporating the adjoining hall into the church and placing the sacristy on the back of the church, thus also enlarging the sanctuary.

There are approximately 200 families in this parish.

St. Peter's

HOUSTON

St. Peter's Parish in Houston is the only parish in the Diocese of Galveston in honor of the Prince of the Apostles. It was established in 1941 by the Most Reverend Christopher E. Byrne, D.D., Bishop of Galveston, and confided to the care of the La Salette Fathers.

Father James J. Shahrigan, M. S., was appointed pastor of St. Peter's by his superiors with the approval of Bishop Byrne, and his present assistant is Father Paul E. Denis, M. S.

Upon arriving in Houston, Father Shahrigan was appointed Chaplain of St. Anthony's Home, and through the kindness of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, the chapel of St. Anthony's Home became a temporary parish church.

The cornerstone of the church was laid Sunday, February 15, 1942, by Bishop Byrne, and the first Mass in the church was said by Father Shahrigan on Palm Sunday, March 29, 1942.

The church was solemnly blessed by Bishop Byrne on April 21, 1942, and Right Reverend Monsignor Edward Kelly, V. G., celebrated Pontifical Mass.

On June 29, 1942, the feast of the Church, Father Shahrigan blessed the ground for the school. It is a frame building, first consisting of three classrooms, with a fourth one added in 1943. Classes started in September, 1942. The Dominican Sisters are in charge. The rectory is a one-story frame building, which was completed in June, 1942.

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Holy Ghost

HOUSTON

Holy Ghost Parish was erected on May 8, 1946, and the first pastor and superior, Father John C. Bauer, C.S.S.R., was appointed by Very Reverend Francis J. Fagan, C.S.S.R., Redemptorist Provincial and approved by Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, D. D., Bishop of Galveston.

The parish was officially opened on June 24, 1946, and Masses are said in the City Hall of Bellaire.

The parish residence is located at 5520 Richmond Road, and the church property is located in the 5500 block of Bellaire Boulevard.

The personnel of the Redemptorist Fathers at the Holy Ghost Parish are Father John C. Bauer, C.S.S.R., pastor and superior; Father John F. Zimmer, C.S.S.R., missionary; and Father A. W. Patton, chaplain of Perpetual Help Convent. These priests serve about eighty Catholic families.

* * *

St. Vincent de Paul

HOUSTON

In 1940, a new parish was established in West University near Houston, in honor of St. Vincent de Paul. The present location is at Bellaire Boulevard near Buffalo Speedway. The name St. Vincent de Paul is not new to the people of Houston because many years ago the old St. Vincent Church stood as a landmark at Franklin and La Branch Streets.

The first church building was erected in 1940 and dedicated February 24, 1941, by His Excellency, Bishop C. E. Byrne.

The church is brick, Gothic style, and seats about 300 people. Father Michael Leahy was appointed first pastor of the budding parish.

In 1942 the Reverend John Dennis Connolly succeeded Father Leahy as pastor. In September of the same year, he built a school and enrolled 180 children. Since then, the parish has increased steadily and the school now numbers 380 children. Sisters of the Incarnate Word of the Blessed Sacrament are in charge of the school.

Due to the increased number of parishioners, plans are under way for the construction of a new and modern church. The building is scheduled to begin very soon.

In June, 1944, Father James Nelson was appointed first assistant to the pastor.

At present the parish is still served by the Rev. John D. Connolly as pastor and the Revs. William Brooks and Dennis J. Kelso as able assistants.

Houston Deanery

St. Rose of Lima

HOUSTON

St. Rose of Lima Parish was organized in March, 1946, and in May the Bishop established permanent boundaries. Father Paul C. Pieri was appointed pastor.

Seven acres of land were purchased at the corner of Wakefield Avenue and Brinkman Road in Garden Oaks, upon which site the parish building will be erected.

To date there are 225 families in the parish, and Masses on Sunday are said in a public school auditorium.

* * * *

St. Theresa of the Little Flower

HOUSTON

The first Mass in the newly formed St. Theresa of the Little Flower Parish in Houston was said on Palm Sunday, April 14, 1946, in Memorial Public School Auditorium. Bishop Byrne erected this new parish in the west end of Houston and appointed Father Ralph J. Diefenbach, pastor.

A tract of land was purchased at Durham and Rodrigo Streets and was soon paid for by the zealous work of the parishioners. Two Masses are said every Sunday in the public school auditorium, and week-day Masses are said at St. Thomas High School.

Plans call for the erecting of a school (part of which will be used as a church), a cafeteria, and a kitchen in the near future. Later it is hoped to build the complete rectory, church, auditorium, and convent.

* * * *

Our Lady of Guadalupe

HOUSTON

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish of Houston, located at 2405 Navigation Boulevard, is one of the Mexican parishes of the city. It is under the care of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

The first Oblate Fathers to begin their work among the Mexicans were Fathers Robert Chatillon, John Massaro, William Lang, and Esteban De Anta, who arrived in October, 1911. They established a modest residence in Magnolia Park, from which they extended their work to the Mexican colonies. After a few months, the Fathers erected a frame building dedicated to the Virgin of Guadalupe, with the first Holy Mass being said on August 18, 1912. The Sisters of Divine Providence, who opened the parochial school at the same time, soon had a permanent home as the number of children in school increased.

Father Chatillon, the first pastor, was replaced in 1915 by Father Joseph Magnan who served until his death on December 24, 1918. Father Esteban De Anta was then appointed pastor.

Under the direction of Father De Anta, a new church building in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe was erected with the solemn dedication on September 2, 1923. The present rectory was also built in 1923.

Catechetical centers were established to take care of the spiritual needs of those unable to reach the church. Father De Anta organized a group of catechists to help him in this work. In all, sixteen centers were established over the city, with facilities for administering to more than 1,000 Mexican children. A beautiful building comprising a chapel, dormitories and study halls was erected in 1925 to house and instruct the catechists.

Father Lopez was appointed in 1936 to fill the place of Father De Anta who was transferred. Four years later, Father N. Diez succeeded Father Lopez.

Father T. Cuevas became pastor in July, 1942, and was replaced a year later by the Reverend Father M. Jean-Joseph, the present pastor, whose assistant is Father John Busch.

Houston Deanery

Immaculate Heart of Mary

HOUSTON

In 1926 Our Lady of Guadalupe Church was the only church for Mexicans in Houston in charge of the Oblate Fathers. In June of the same year Father Anastasio Perez, O.M.I., an assistant of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, started religious services for the Mexicans of Magnolia Park, thus marking the beginning of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, of which Father Perez was appointed pastor.

At first, services were given in a private home, but in a short period he was able to raise enough funds to build the two-story building which is the present church. For two years the second floor was the pastor's residence as well as the school. The classes were in charge of the Sisters of Divine Providence from Our Lady of the Lake Convent.

In 1928 Father Francisco Balzola, O.M.I., was appointed pastor. During his stay he made some improvements. He built the rectory, enlarged the church and bought a wooden hall which was transformed into three classrooms.

Father Jose Azpiazu, O.M.I., became the third pastor in 1934. He built an addition to the rectory, erected the convent and in 1937 reopened the school which had been closed. This time the Sisters of the Sacred Heart from San Antonio took charge.

Father Telesforo Cuevas, O.M.I., became the fourth pastor in January, 1941. He was succeeded in 1942 by Father N. Diez, O.M.I. The old wooden building has been replaced by a beautiful two-story structure which was blessed by the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, Bishop of Galveston, on December 23, 1945.

The building has eight modern equipped classrooms and has an enrollment of 365 children. He built an addition to the sisters' convent. Plans for a new church are under way. Father T. Cuevas, O.M.I., is the present pastor.

St. Stephen's

HOUSTON

St. Stephen's Parish of Houston was founded in May, 1932, by Father Esteban De Anta of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.

Father De Anta began with a Catechism Center in the vicinity of the Sixth Ward, and named the Parish St. Stephen's.

The first catechism class was held for children of the parish by Mr. Jose Araiza of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. Mrs. Maria Martinez made it possible for Father De Anta to start his religious teaching to the people of the parish by having an open house two days a week.

In October, 1932, Father De Anta rented a two-story house between Silver and Center Streets, where a chapel and school were started. High Mass was sung out-of-doors, at the time of the dedication by Bishop Byrne.

After Father Frederick Caldwell, O.M.I., took charge of St. Stephen's, a new brick church was built and dedicated on March 2, 1941.

Father Felix Sola is the present pastor.

* * * *

Our Lady of Sorrows

HOUSTON

The Liberty Road area where the present church of Our Lady of Sorrows is situated was a part of the parish of Our Lady of Guadalupe until 1936. Many Latin American families began to build their homes in that area, and it became necessary to erect a separate church.

The first church was a wooden structure erected by Father Caldwell, O.M.I., in 1936. As the parish continued to grow, Father Santos, O.M.I., who succeeded Father Caldwell, started to build the present church which was completed in February, 1942. It is of brick and tile with a seating capacity of 300. The original church is now used as a parish hall.

In June, 1942, Father Santos was transferred to Del Rio, the present pastor, Father J. P. Delaney,

Houston Deanery

O.M.I., assuming his duties. During the past four years the debt on the church has been paid, and a substantial amount has been collected for the erection of a parish school.

This year, ground was purchased by Father Delaney for the erection of another church in honor of Our Lady of San Juan de los Lagos, in Bonita Gardens (Hirsh Road), which place is now a part of the parish of Our Lady of Sorrows.

* * * *

St. Nicholas HOUSTON

The history of St. Nicholas' Parish is indeed a marvel of the solicitude of Divine Providence for the Negro race in Houston.

The first work among the colored Catholics of the city is accredited the late Father Thomas Hennessy of the Annunciation Church, who arranged for the first Sunday School instructions of the colored children. This was prior to 1887, during which time the Negroes attended Mass at the nearest Catholic Church, Annunciation.

The first building for this Catholic group was one erected at Chenevert Street and Lamar Avenue by the Right Reverend Nicholas A. Gallagher and dedicated in October, 1887, under the patronage of St. Nicholas. This provided the first school for the parishioners, and three Sisters of the Incarnate Word assumed charge of the teaching there. Later the building was remodeled to form a combination church and school.

During the five years after 1896 that the parish was without a pastor, Father Hennessy offered one of the side aisles of the Annunciation to the parishioners of St. Nicholas.

In October, 1901, through the joint efforts of Fathers Hennessy and Roche, C.S.B., the Josephite Fathers were placed in charge of St. Nicholas Parish. The first resident pastor was Father

Francis J. Tobin who labored zealously repairing the run-down building. He was succeeded two years later by Father Narcise Denis and then Father Joseph Murphy.

Father Charles Reilly took up the work in July, 1904, and served until June, 1910. He built a little convent; and in September, 1905, the Sisters of the Holy Family, a congregation of colored nuns, took charge of St. Nicholas' School to continue the work done for eighteen years by the Incarnate Word Sisters.

After 1910, Fathers John Albert, Michael Gumbleton, William Murphy, and Hector Gilman served the parish. In January, 1920, Father John McKeever was appointed pastor.

When the parish property was sold, a new plot at the corner of Bell Avenue and St. Charles Street was purchased. Two frame buildings, which were later stuccoed, were erected on this new site; one, a combination church and school, and the other a convent. Mass was said for the first time in this, the second church of St. Nicholas, on Sunday, September 19, 1920.

Father Carl F. Schappert was appointed pastor in August, 1922, and given the assignment of finding a site for a rectory.

In October, 1922, construction on the present rectory was started.

The present brick building, St. Nicholas' Church, was built, and was dedicated December 2, 1923. Father John Lyons was appointed the first assistant in October, 1928, as the congregation increased.

As progress in the parish continued, the old combination building of church and school was demolished, and a new convent and school were completed in August, 1931. The new school opened on September 8, with the much needed high school facilities, in addition to the seven grades. The first high school class graduated in 1935 from the St. Nicholas Academy. The school is accredited by the Texas Board of Education.

The Very Reverend Father George J. Hanks, S.S.J., the present pastor of St. Nicholas' Parish succeeded Father P. T. McNamara, S.S.J., who served for two years.

The 1946 census revealed 2124 parishioners, and a school enrollment of 568 pupils.

Houston Deanery

Our Mother of Mercy

HOUSTON

Our Mother of Mercy Church, the second Negro parish to be established in Houston, was founded in June, 1929.

Bishop Christopher E. Byrne purchased two city blocks, on Sumpter Street, and ground was broken for the new church April 28, 1928. The Josephite Fathers undertook to finance the building of the new church.

On Sunday, June 9, 1929, Bishop Byrne blessed the new church and dedicated it in honor of Our Mother of Mercy. For approximately a year the church was a mission of St. Nicholas' Parish.

The need for a resident pastor was soon apparent and in July, 1930, Father Flaherty was appointed first pastor of Our Mother of Mercy Parish. The parish buildings now comprised a church, school, rectory, and convent. Father Flaherty had built a mission church on land acquired by Bishop Byrne in Houston Heights. The church was named in honor of St. Anne de Beaupre and was erected through the generosity of Father Charles Daly, a Boston priest.

Succeeding Father Flaherty as pastor of Our Mother of Mercy was Father Joseph A. Lally, S.S.J. During his pastorate, property was acquired in Trinity Gardens a small settlement just outside the Houston city limits. Father Lally's zeal for the welfare of Houston's Negroes was further evidenced by his deep interest in the establishment of a Catholic hospital for Negroes.

In August, 1945, Father Lally was succeeded by Father Anthony A. Keil, S.S.J., who in his short tenure as pastor has made many improvements in the parish property. Father Keil has started a Convent Fund, and ground for the new convent will be broken in the near future.

Notable in the parish history is the outstanding record of the parochial school consisting of both grammar and high schools and boasting a large modern auditorium. The school is staffed by and under the capable direction of the Sisters of the Holy Family. At present the school is taxed to capacity with an enrollment of 429 pupils. The parish has 1965 members and St. Anne's Mission, 384.

Houston's First Catholic Church

St. Vincent de Paul

HOUSTON

On January 3, 1839, the first Masses in Houston were said by Fathers John Timon, C.M. (First Bishop of Buffalo, New York, 1847 to 1867), and John Liebaria, C.M., in a room on the property of a Protestant woman. Use of the room was obtained through the good influence of a poor Irishwoman.

On July 17, 1842, the first Mass was said in the new church of St. Vincent de Paul, which had only twenty pews. Several members of Congress were present.

On February 11, 1843, the steeple was braced and a bell suspended. It was dedicated to St. Vincent de Paul. (This bell was removed to St. Joseph's Church in 1880 and was used until damaged by the storm of 1900. It was on display at the Annunciation's Diamond Jubilee.) The bell was cast by Schemier and Wilson in Houston.

Father John Lynch, C.M., was appointed pastor in 1846 and served until October, 1847. He became coadjutor Bishop of Toronto, Canada, in 1859 and the first Archbishop of Toronto in 1870.

St. Vincent's Cemetery was established in 1852 and therein lay the remains of Samuel Paschal, hero of San Jacinto; Dick Dowling, hero of Sabine Pass; Jack Kennedy of Kennedy's Trading Post; and many other prominent pioneers. The last burial was in 1926.

In 1860, two Italian Franciscans were appointed to Houston's St. Vincent de Paul Church, Fathers Augustine d'Asti, O.S.F., and Felix de Connobio, O.S.F. Father Felix was Military Chaplain, Confederate States of America, to Dick Dowling's heroes at Sabine Pass; and in old St. Vincent's he blessed the flags used at the battle.

The first Catholic marriage in Harris County was that of Francis Hunt and Catherine Corbett. The first in the church records was that of Bernard Carraber and Maria Ann O'Rourke. Both marriages were performed by Father Timon.

St. Vincent's became a German parish on September 10, 1871, and ceased to exist in 1878.

Houston Deanery

Sacred Heart

CONROE

In 1898, Conroe was only a small sawmill town of Montgomery County when Andrew Madeley invited the Rev. P. J. Kline of Plantersville to visit Conroe and say Mass in his home. Father Kline made several visits to Conroe.

Father George Wilhelm (now Monsignor Wilhelm), a young priest who succeeded Father Kline at Plantersville, was the next missionary to visit the Conroe Mission about the year 1906. Father Wilhelm served the mission for many years and it was during his tenure that a little frame church was built, the basic fund coming from the Catholic Church Extension Society. Local citizens, Catholic and non-Catholic, donated the rest.

When Father Wilhelm was transferred to Palestine, Father George Apel succeeded him at Plantersville and made his first visit to the Conroe Mission in 1913. It was on October 25, 1916, during Father Apel's tenure, that Bishop N. A. Gallagher of Galveston made his first visit to Conroe. The church was dedicated and called St. Mary's of the Woods.

When Father Apel was transferred to Cameron, Father Dykal was placed in charge of the Conroe Mission for a few months, and was followed by Father Rops who served about a year. Father B. C. Pfiffner succeeded him. Some time later Conroe was changed from a mission of Plantersville to a mission of New Waverly.

When George Strake of Houston discovered the great oil field at Conroe in 1931, he and William Pfiffner made a substantial gift toward the erection of a new brick church. Father Parmentier was in charge of the Conroe Mission then and had the Sacred Heart Church built on the land, part of which was donated by Mr. and Mrs. James McDade. Mrs. Blanche Bender of Houston donated the marble altar. The Rev. Fabian Stindle and the Rev. Max Budnik were the missionaries who succeeded Father Parmentier. While Father Budnik was in charge, the first mission was conducted for a week by Rev. Joseph M. Kmiecik, C.S.C. Father Thomas Cemon, present pastor, was appointed in 1943.

Sacred Heart

CROSBY

The Catholic Church was started in Crosby, Texas, in the year 1900. The first church was built in 1913 under the direction of Father Lang.

Before the church was built, Mass was said in homes of different Catholic parishioners of Crosby by Father Jacob Schnetzer.

After this first church was built, Mass was said only once a month until the year 1934 or 1935. At that time Father Charles Kunc was assigned to the parish as pastor.

In the year 1915, the Catholic church was blown down during a storm, but was rebuilt.

After Father Charles Kunc took over as pastor, Mass was said every Sunday. After Father Kunc had been in Crosby for about three or four years, a new church was built.

The church is now free of debt, and the people are starting to build a school for the children.

* * * *

St. Thomas the Apostle

HUNTSVILLE

This, the newest parish in the Galveston Diocese, was organized in January, 1947, the first in the Diocese to bear the name of St. Thomas, the Apostle.

The Catholic people of the town have bought a frame building and moved it to a lot already in their possession. Mass will be said in this building until a permanent church can be erected. Father Thomas Cemon, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Conroe, aided the people of Huntsville in the organization of the parish. Mass will be said there on Sundays, with the pastor of Conroe and seminary priests alternating in providing Mass.

Houston Deanery

St. Joseph's

BAYTOWN

Prior to the spring of 1921, the Catholics of what is now the tri-cities area journeyed to the chapel of St. Mary's Seminary at La Porte to hear Mass and fulfill their religious obligations. The priests at the seminary attended to their religious needs.

In 1921, owing to the growth in population as a result of the industrial development of this section, it became necessary that a priest be assigned to these people.

The late Father Thomas J. Finn of St. Mary's Seminary at La Porte said the first Mass in the tri-cities at the recreation hall of the Humble Oil and Refining Company at Baytown.

The Catholic population of the entire district consisted then of some thirty-five families.

In 1924, the Oblate Fathers took over and organized the parish. Father Joseph F. Dwan, O.M.I., built the present church. It was dedicated in the early summer of 1928 by Bishop Byrne.

The present pastor, Father Dennis Kennedy, became the first resident pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Baytown, in 1930.

Today the Catholics of the area number approximately 2,300, including 800 Mexicans.

Plans are now under way for the erection of a school to accommodate 500 pupils, a church with a seating capacity for 500, and a home for the sisters who will teach in the school.

St. Jude's

HIGHLANDS

This parish was erected in January, 1947, by the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne at the request of the Catholic residents of the community.

Father A. L. O'Connell, pastor of St. Pius Church, Pasadena, took a census in the town and found 117 Catholic families. Father O'Connell assisted the people in the plans for the parish. In January of this year Father Bernard Roemer was appointed pastor of the parish. An area of two and one half acres of ground belong to the parish, and at present a church which will seat 250 people is in the process of construction.

Sacred Heart

LITTLE YORK

Sacred Heart Church was built thirty-one years ago, with money given by the poor people living in the vicinity and by the Catholic Church Extension Society.

The Church was dedicated on June 25, 1916, by Most Reverend N. A. Gallagher. The first pastor was Rev. Carmel Gagliardoni. Money to buy land for the church was given by the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, Bishop of Galveston. The present pastor is Rev. Nunzio La Rocca.

St. Pius

PASADENA

In 1941, Father Joseph Coll, established St. Pius Parish in Pasadena, Texas. At that time, there were only sixty-five Catholic families in that territory and the first Mass was said in the high school auditorium.

The church property, which consists of about nine acres, is located just off the La Porte highway.

The church was constructed of Texas shellstone and was completed in 1942. A school has just been completed which will open in September, 1947, and the Sisters of Divine Providence will be in charge.

Father A. L. O'Connell, the present pastor, has been at St. Pius since 1942. He is now assisted by Father Bernard Roemer.

Blessed Martin de Porres

CROSBY

After the great Mississippi flood of 1927 many colored Catholics moved from Louisiana into Texas, settling along the Southern Pacific Railway. A number of these people moved into Crosby, Texas, where for many years they attended Mass in the town church.

Father Carl Schappert, S.S.J., pastor of St. Nicholas' Church in Houston, was invited to care for them, and in 1936, through a benefactor, a church was built and dedicated in the colored

(Continued On Page 87)

Waco Deanery



St. Mary's of the Immaculate Conception, Mexia
Church of the Visitation, Westphalia
St. Martin's, Tours
Sacred Heart, Lott

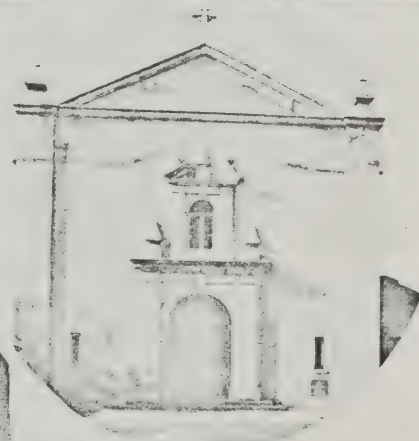
Bryan Deanery



St. Teresa of the Infant Jesus, Bryan
St. Anthony's, Bryan

St. Joseph's, Bryan
St. Mary's Chapel, College Station

Bryan Deanery



St. Mary's, Plantersville

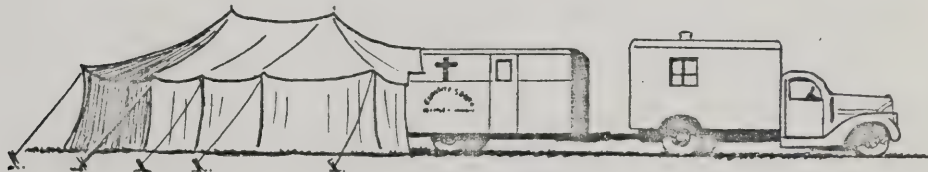
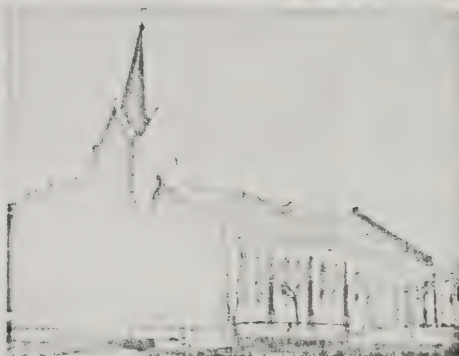
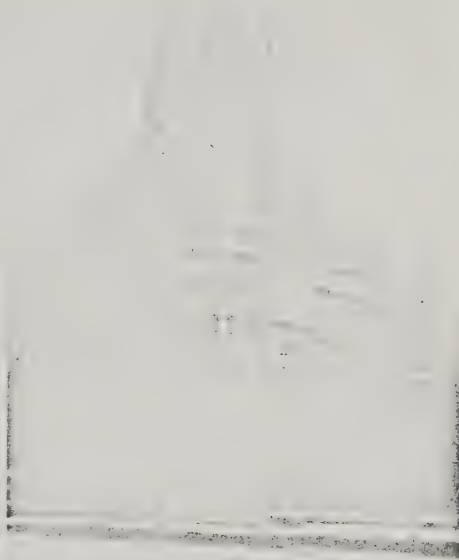
St. Monica's, Cameron

St. Mary's, Hearne

St. Michael's, Burlington

Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Marak

Bryan Deanery



*Holy Rosary, Frenstat
St. Mary's, Caldwell*

*St. Mary's Bremond
St. Stanislaus, Anderson*

Espiritu Santo

Palestine Deanery



*Sacred Heart, Palestine
Our Lady of Sorrows, Jacksonville
Sacred Heart, Nacogdoches*

*Sacred Heart, Rusk
St. Anne's, Fern Lake
St. Patrick's, Crockett*

Palestine Deanery



*St. Joseph's, New Waverly
Immaculate Conception, Moral
Our Lady of La Salette, Bonaldo*

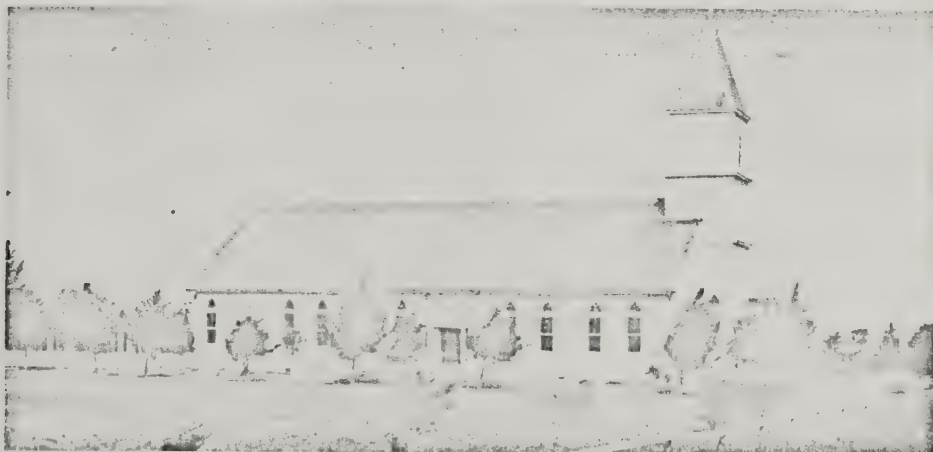
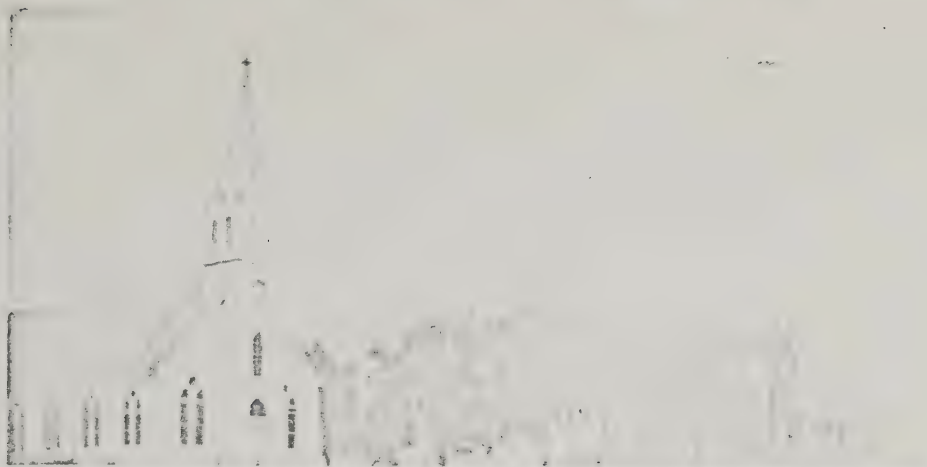
*St. Patrick's, Lufkin
St. Pius, Hemphill
St. James, San Augustine*

East Bernard Deanery



Holy Cross, East Bernard
Guardian Angel's, Wallis *Immaculate Conception, Sealy*
Holy Rosary, Rosenberg

East Bernard Deanery



*Immaculate Conception, Fayetteville
St. Anthony's, Danbury
St. Mary's, Frydek*

Beaumont Deanery

St. Anthony's

BEAUMONT

The history of St. Anthony's Church, Beaumont can be traced from the advent of Father P. F. Parisot, O.M.I., who came to care for early settlers about 1851.

About the time of the Civil War in 1860, the Sabine area was cared for by Father J. C. Neraz, who later became Bishop of San Antonio. From the time of Father Neraz until the end of the war in 1864 the people of the section were cared for by the following priests: Fathers C. Pradey, P. Berther, E. M. Buford, J. Champin, J. J. Martinieri, J. Mary, F. deRue, D. Moyes, N. Crispin, J. Godard, L. Nolin, J. M. Guiot and J. Granger.

After the Civil War, Fathers P. A. Livey, S. Allen and J. S. Guillet took care of this district until 1879.

All during these years the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was celebrated in private homes, and later in the old Temperance Building.

In October, 1879, Beaumont's Catholics welcomed Father V. Quinon who built the first church, known as St. Louis' Catholic Church, in 1881. On the same site the first rectory was then built. The story has it that rather than cut down the large oak tree on the grounds, the rectory was built around it.

At this particular time Father Quinon had only 300 parishioners.

(Continued from Page 78)

section of the territory. Priests from St. Nicholas', in Houston, said Mass every Sunday in the new church until May, 1945, when Father John Wilson, S.S.J., was then appointed pastor of the parish. The parish was dedicated to the new colored saint, Blessed Martin de Porres.

Father Wilson found that many of his parishioners had to travel from McNair, five miles away, in order to attend Sunday Mass. Father Wilson immediately studied the situation and finding a small convenient building belonging to The National Association of the Advancement of Colored People began saying Mass there every Sunday.

The parish now numbers 542 souls. It is hoped that in the near future a school will be built at the home parish and also a mission at McNair.

For ten years after Father Quinon's departure in 1882, Beaumont was cared for by the following priests: Fathers A. Jupin, J. Grabinger, J. C. McLoy, J. B. LeHane, J. Granger, H. F. Shaw, P. F. Sullivan and J. P. Simone, O.S.M.

In May, 1892, Father P. J. Kellett came to Beaumont. He bought the square block bounded by Forsythe, Jefferson, Wall, and Archie Streets, moved the St. Louis Church to this block and built a small rectory. However, Father Kellett died before its completion.

In August, 1895, Father M. P. McSorley came as the first resident pastor and remained two years. When he arrived, the rectory which had been started by Father Kellett was completed and used for a school, conducted by the Dominican Sisters. In July, 1896, Father McSorley began construction of a three-story frame school building.

In May, 1897, Father William Lee came to Beaumont to spend the remaining twenty-one years of his life. It was the oil boom of 1901 that prompted Father Lee to make plans to build a new church for his growing parish. The cornerstone of the new church was laid in June, 1903, and on June 7, 1904, the church was dedicated to the honor of St. Anthony of Padua.

Due to the influx of students, Father Lee started construction on the stucco grammar school building, but he died in July, 1918, before its completion.

Father E. A. Kelly was then appointed pastor. In the twenty-eight years of his pastorate, Father Kelly has been responsible for construction amounting to over \$300,000. In 1924, Father Kelly was elevated by Pope Pius XI to the dignity of the Monsignor. Two years later he was appointed the Vicar-General of the Galveston Diocese by his Bishop. At the same time, Monsignor Kelly was appointed President of St. Mary's Seminary at La Porte, simultaneously carrying out his duties as active pastor of St. Anthony's Parish.

Structures included in the building program are a rectory, a new building and, later, improvements to St. Anthony's High School, extensions to the sisters' convent, additional classrooms and recreational buildings for the grammar school, and a redecoration of the church itself.

Beaumont Deanery

St. Mary's

PORT ARTHUR

The first priest to minister to the small group of Catholics in Port Arthur in the early part of 1899 was Father Gallagher who attended the missions of the Gulf Coast.

The first Mass was said in a vacant store building. At this time one place was used by the Catholics, the Methodists and the Baptists as a place of worship; later the Catholics were able to get a place of their own and install an altar and pews.

Father Gallagher was on his missions during the terrible 1900 storm and, as a result of the exposure, suffered to such an extent that in a few months he had to resign as missionary.

Port Arthur was without a priest until 1903 when Bishop Nicholas Gallagher sent Father E. A. Kelly as the first resident pastor of Port Arthur where there was a growing Catholic population.

Father Kelly said his first Mass in a hall over Haver's Store. Mass was said there until a vacant building was secured. A choir was organized with Jennie Bash, fourteen years old, as organist and director. She was said to be the youngest person in the United States to hold such a position.

The parish grew, and half a block of land was obtained for a new church which was dedicated in honor of the Immaculate Conception in September, 1903. This was a frame church which served the Catholics of Port Arthur until 1922.

Father Kelly remained pastor until 1910 when he was transferred to Waco. He was followed by Father M. J. Crowe, who in turn was followed by Father P. Bienemann. Father Bienemann remained only a few months and was succeeded by Father A. G. Grattan in 1912.

Father Grattan built the first brick school in 1914. The congregation of Port Arthur grew and the old church could not accommodate the crowds; so in 1922 Father Grattan built an impressive brick church. This church was the only parish church in Port Arthur until 1929 when Bishop C. E. Byrne, D.D., divided the parish and formed the second parish, St. James.

The great number of children made it necessary to build a new grammar school. In 1925 the

present grade school with fourteen large classrooms and a separate building, the cafeteria, were built.

Father Grattan remained at St. Mary's until September, 1940, when he was succeeded by Father H. A. Drouilhet, the present pastor.

In 1941 the new addition to the high school was built and the Home Economics Building was purchased. The high school is fully accredited with the State Department of Education.

The great number of children clamoring for Catholic education made it necessary to purchase additional property for an annex to the grade school. St. Mary's school system is the largest in the state of Texas, with approximately 1300 children registered.

* * * *

St. Anne's

BEAUMONT

St. Anne's Parish was established in November, 1936. The census showed more than 200 families in the territory.

On September 12, 1937, the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, D.D., officiated at the laying of the cornerstone of the church. The school was dedicated and the convent blessed at this time.

The church was dedicated on January 27, 1938. The altar was consecrated in April by Right Reverend Monsignor E. A. Kelly, P.A., V.G.

Additions to the school building have been made and were dedicated September, 1946. The Sisters of St. Mary of Namur are in charge of the school.

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Our Lady of Victory

SOUR LAKE AND ITS MISSIONS

This parish embraces two-thirds of Hardin County and a part of Jefferson County. Attached to Our Lady of Victory are the missions of Our Lady of Sorrows at China and Sacred Heart at Saratoga.

The first church was built by Father Robert Frei and was attended by Fathers Klaine, Sampson, and Collins who built the present churches at Sour Lake and China. The latter church was a gift of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Phelan of Beaumont.

Father Martin Collins was the first pastor; Father Lawrence Kramer is the present pastor.

Beaumont Deanery

St. Elizabeth's

PORT NECHES

St. Elizabeth's Parish, Port Neches, was established in 1922. Previously it had been a mission of St. Mary's Church in Port Arthur. Due to the absence of a church building, Father F. B. Hardy, first pastor of the parish, offered his first Mass in a theater.

The present property was purchased and a combination church and school was soon erected. The parish also procured a home for the sisters' convent and built a rectory.

The present pastor, Father C. P. Sullivan came to Port Neches in June, 1939. During his pastorate the church, school, and the convent have seen many improvements. The new church and rectory to be built in the near future will be located across the street on property acquired in 1937. As soon as conditions permit, there will be a church worthy of the service of God in Port Neches. It is hoped that then the present church will be used as a much needed social center. At present there are five Dominican Sisters in charge of the school. Average enrollment is 145.

St. Theresa's Church, Port Acres; Immaculate Conception Church, Groves; and St. Charles' Church, Nederland, were missions taken care of by Father F. B. Hardy when he was pastor of Port Neches. Each parish mentioned above has a resident pastor now. Some idea of the growth of this territory may be obtained from the fact that there are four priests now taking care of the spiritual needs of the Catholics, where one priest originally had all of this territory before the year 1929.

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Little Flower

PORT ACRES

Little Flower Church, Port Acres, was built in October, 1928, by Father Fred Hardy and was dedicated December 19, 1929, by Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, D.D. First a mission, it was elevated to parochial status April, 1930, with the Father Emil Landry as first and present pastor.

In addition to the church, there is a rectory and parish hall.

Immaculate Conception

GROVES

The history of the Immaculate Conception Parish dates back to 1928 when Father Fred Hardy, pastor of St. Elizabeth's Church in Port Neches, arranged for a Redemptorist, Father Legris, to give a mission to organize the parishioners. The mission was given at the Groves Community Hall in December, 1928. Mass was said by Father Legris in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. DeVillier. At that time there were about fifteen Catholic families in this area.

Under the direction of Father Hardy, construction began on a church and it was dedicated December 8, 1929. From this time until 1937, Mass was said by Father Hardy and from time to time by Fathers Emil Landry and John de Arana, who substituted for him.

In April, 1937, Father Marcel Notzon was appointed by Bishop Byrne as the first pastor of Immaculate Conception Church. At that time there were about eighty Catholic families in Groves. On October 8, 1939, tragedy struck the parish when the church that was built in 1929 was razed in a hurricane.

In 1940 the present brick church was dedicated and a rectory was also built.

Father Notzon was succeeded by Father Michael Leahy in June, 1942, and in November, 1943, he was succeeded by Father Florence O'Connor.

In October, 1945, Father B. J. Marino was sent to Immaculate Conception Church from Waco, Texas.

There is no parochial school at present, but plans are being formulated to build one in the near future. The religious instruction of the children attending the public schools is provided every Sunday by the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament.

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St. Charles

NEDERLAND

The Parish of St. Charles was organized in 1923 by Father Fred B. Hardy, who was already pastor of St. Elizabeth's Church in Port Neches. A frame church was erected and dedicated by Bishop Byrne and has been in use since that time.

Beaumont Deanery

St. Mary's

ORANGE

Before Father James Moran was appointed the first resident priest of St. Mary's Church, Orange, in 1896, priests had come once or twice a month from Louisiana to attend the spiritual needs of the Catholics of the vicinity.

The first wooden church was blown down by a storm in 1888. The second structure erected on the corner of 6th Street and Pine, was destroyed by fire in 1911; then services were held for some time in the present A. B. C. Building next to the Orange National Bank. A new rock church was erected and dedicated under Father Robert Frei's pastorate by the Most Reverend Bishop N. A. Gallagher in 1912.

As early as 1895, Dominican Sisters stopped several times a year to teach catechism on their return road from other stations. In 1924, during Father Otto Bauer's administration a parochial school was built and given in charge of the Dominican Sisters. The priests succeeding Father Moran were: Fathers Robert Frei, Otto Bauer, and George Berberich, the present pastor. Father Joseph Berberich, who is primarily responsible for the recent rapid progress of St. Mary's Parish, has done excellent work in the missions, having built three churches: St. Helen's at Orangefield, Our Lady of Lourdes at Vidor, and St. Henry's at Bridge City. The last named church was blessed on November 28, 1946, by His Excellency, Bishop Byrne.

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St. Theresa

ORANGE

A group of three Catholic families from Orange united as a St. Joseph's Social Club. On June 19, 1924, the Knights of Peter Claver was established and a ladies' auxiliary followed in 1929. Josephite Priests from the Blessed Sacrament Church in Beaumont paid visits to Orange and said Mass for the colored people in St. Mary's Church, also holding evening services in 1926. On June 1, 1936, ground was broken for a new church donated by Father Ring, and this church was blessed by the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne on November, 1936, in honor of the Little Flower.

The Rev. James V. Finegan, S.S.J., was the first pastor, followed by the Rev. Francis Tighe, S.S.J., and the Rev. Thomas J. Talley, S.S.J. In September, 1941, the Rev. M. J. McCormack, S.S.J., became resident pastor.

An old estate was purchased in October, 1941, and is now the site of the sisters' convent and a school erected in 1945. The school opened with enrollment of ninety pupils, taught by Miss Verdun and Miss Broussard. September 9, 1946, found three Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament registering 133 pupils from the first to the fifth grade, inclusive.

A new rectory was purchased in 1946.

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Our Lady of Guadalupe.

PORT ARTHUR

The Mexican parish of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Port Arthur was organized by the Rev. Marceliano Ruiz, a priest from the Diocese of Leon, Mexico, in 1927. A part of a large brick building, still standing at the corner of 15th Street and Houston Avenue, was first used for religious services and for the priest's residence. Later a frame building with a capacity for 120 people was acquired.

The Rev. Marceliano Ruiz returned to Mexico in July, 1929, and the church was closed from that time to July 4, 1931. On that date Fathers Fernando de Salterain, O.S.A., and Juan de Arana, O.S.A., took possession of the parish, and the church was reopened.

The actual steel and brick church building was erected and dedicated by Bishop C. E. Byrne on February 26, 1936.

The Rev. John De Arana, O.S.A., was pastor of the church from July 4, 1931, until July 21, 1945, when Father Basil F. Fresno was appointed pastor. His assistants at present are the Rev. Toribio de Onate, O.S.A., and Rev. Porfirio Fernandez, O.S.A.

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Beaumont Deanery

St. James'

PORT ARTHUR

St. James' Parish was established in October, 1929, with appointment of the Rev. J. M. Kirwin as first pastor. The construction of a frame building was begun on November 10, and the church was dedicated on January 30, 1930, by Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, present Bishop of Galveston.

In June, 1930, a convent was built for the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament who opened St. James' School in September, 1930, with an enrollment of 200 children. In 1931 and 1937 more school room was provided.

The present St. James' Church, built in 1939, was dedicated on November 26 by the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne.

The present grammar school was built in 1940 and has an enrollment of 927 children in the eight grammar grades. The buildings formerly occupied by the grammar school are now used as a high school which has an enrollment of 265 children.

The Rev. J. T. Geiser was appointed the first assistant to St. James Parish in 1930. He was succeeded by the Rev. Paul C. Pieri in 1934. The Rev. E. C. Fowler has also served as assistant in this parish. At present the Rev. J. M. Kirwin is pastor, and the Revs. M. J. Leahy, J. P. O'Sullivan, Frank Schanzer, and Victor DiPrimeo, are assistants. Father DiPrimeo is also the Diocesan Director of Church Music.

In addition to the church, grammar school and high school, there are also a convent, rectory, and an athletic stadium seating 4000. The parish comprises twenty acres, and with its buildings has a valuation of nearly \$400,000.

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St. Joseph's

BEAUMONT

In the spring of 1905 a wooden building was erected on the corner of Orange Street and Milam for worship. This building was destroyed by the 1915 storm, and in the fall of the same year the present brick church was built.

Father Damiani who had been in charge of St. Joseph's Parish since 1905, returned to Italy on

sick leave on May 30, 1921, and on September 18 of the same year, the Bishop appointed Father A. De Simone, pastor.

In 1922 the rectory was built.

In October, 1928, Father De Simone died and on March 14, 1929, Father D. Viola, the present pastor, was appointed.

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Blessed Sacrament

BEAUMONT

Due to the large and growing Negro population in Beaumont, many of whom had migrated from Louisiana, Father Alexis LaPlante, a Josephite, was sent by his superior to open a mission in this territory in 1915.

The original plans called for him to establish his headquarters in Port Arthur. However, due to the heavy spring rains and the resulting high water, he found it necessary to remain for a time in Beaumont. Since the field was so fertile there, and many of the people already were Catholics he decided to make this the permanent residence of the parish.

The first Mass was said in his temporary rectory on Irving Street. The church, built the following year, was the first floor of a two-story structure; four classrooms for a school were on the second floor. The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament came from Philadelphia to conduct the school. The convent and rectory were completed soon after the church and school.

Father LaPlante remained as pastor until 1929 when he was relieved by the Rev. M. P. Morrissey, S.S.J. A year later Rev. P. J. Walsh, S.S.J., was appointed pastor and remained in charge until his death in 1936. Rev. James Finigan, S.S.J., was pastor until 1942, at which time Rev. Michael Flaherty, S.S.J., the present pastor, succeeded him.

In 1941 Father Finigan built a new church across the street from the rectory, and in 1944 Father Flaherty reconstructed the old combination church and school building into a modern eight-room school. A year later with the help of additional sisters a high school was begun. At present the records number over 2800 parishioners.

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Beaumont Deanery

Our Mother of Mercy

BEAUMONT

In 1925 Father Alexis LaPlante, S.S.J., then pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church in Beaumont, decided that the time had arrived for further material advancement, in order that he might better serve the spiritual needs of the colored people of Beaumont. Pear Orchard was then and is now a large settlement in the southwest corner of Beaumont, with a large Catholic population.

Property was purchased on Hebert Street across from the Blessed Sacrament Cemetery, and a suitable church was erected that same year. One of the priests of Blessed Sacrament said Mass there regularly every Sunday and administered to the spiritual needs of the parish. This routine was followed until 1937 when Father Francis Tighe, S.S.J., was appointed resident pastor. He was succeeded by Father Thomas Foley, S.S.J., in 1939, who in turn was followed by Father Gerard Sullivan, S.S.J., in 1944 and Father James Feherly, S.S.J., the present pastor, in 1946.

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Sacred Heart

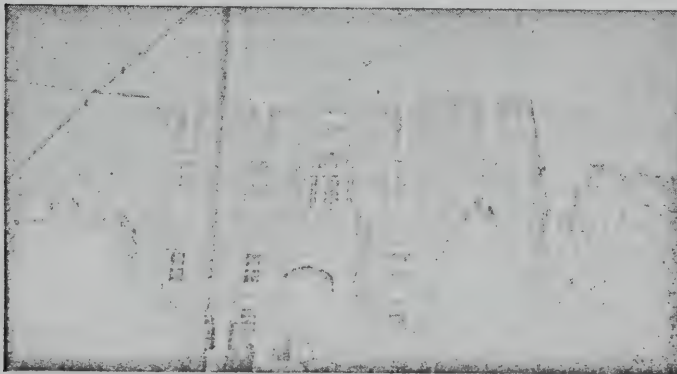
PORT ARTHUR

In 1915 Father Alexis LaPlante, a Josephite Father was sent to Port Arthur to establish a church for the colored people. A severe gulf storm was in progress when he arrived so he went to Beaumont and established a church there and then returned to Port Arthur and started the church by erecting a frame building.

When Father Arthur Flanigan, S.S.J., was appointed his assistant in January, 1923, he started working for a permanent building. After two years, in December, 1924, Father Joseph Lally, S.S.J., was appointed first resident pastor.

In 1926 the present combination church and school was built, and in the same year a convent was built for the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament who were to take charge of the school.

In 1942 Father James Finegan, S.S.J., succeeded Father Lally as pastor, and now there are seven sisters and one lay teacher in the school. The congregation numbers about 1700, and plans are under way for a new church and rectory.



SACRED HEART, PORT ARTHUR

Waco Deanery

Assumption

WACO

On July 24, 1870, the cornerstone of the first Catholic church was laid in Waco and dedicated in honor of the Assumption of the Mother of God.

Father J. L. Bussant, who visited Waco at intervals in 1869, began arrangements for the building of this first church and saw its completion. Father Bussant was the first resident pastor of the church which stood on the site of the present McLennan County courthouse. The church was completed in March, 1873. Living in Waco at the time of the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the parish in 1920 was Daniel Whalen who, assisted by Thomas Daley, built the altars and sanctuary rail of the old church.

A site was purchased in 1879 at Washington and Ninth Streets for the second church and during the same year Father Bussant had a small brick structure built which was used as a school.

The cornerstone of the new church was laid on April 7, 1883. Dedicated in 1886, the church was considered one of the finest specimens of church architecture in Texas.

Father E. Flury had charge of the mission stations surrounding the town in the early years.

The present church was built in 1941 and dedicated on February 2, 1942, by Bishop Byrne. A magnificently imposing church, it is built of native Texas stone. The present pastor, Father John Kearns, has under construction at this time a three story parochial school adjacent to the church. This school will have every practical advancement in design and utility which school building authorities can suggest.

The first Holy Communion class of this parish was composed of six children who received their Holy Communion on July 6, 1874. The first Catholic marriage in the parish was that of Alfred Herbelin and Miss Mary Fisher and was solemnized September 29, 1874. The first baptisms performed in the parish were those of John Doherty, son of Patrick and Elizabeth Doherty, and George and Rosalie Doherty, children of John and Mary Doherty. The handful of Catholics found in 1870 has grown today to more than 400 families. Among the organizations found in the parish are the Knights of Columbus, Daugh-

ters of Isabella, Catholic Knights of America, St. Anne's Altar Society, Children of Mary, Knights of the Infant Jesus.

The pastors of the parish in succession to Father Bussant have been Fathers Badelon, Clancy, Kelly, Heckman, O'Leary, Hogan and the present pastor, the Very Reverend John J. Kearns, Dean of Waco.

The Academy of the Sacred Heart

Bishop C. M. Dubuis invited the Sisters of St. Mary, Lockport, N. Y., to provide for the Catholic education of the parish, and on September 23, 1873, three of these sisters arrived in Waco. The Academy was opened in the following month and for over sixty years gave devoted service to the education of the children of Waco. Their work will be held in great appreciation by the priests and people of Waco.

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Our Lady of the Pilar

MARLIN

There are over 100 Mexican families in Marlin and its environs. St. Joseph's Church was used once a month to say Mass. The religious instructions were given in private homes, from 1924 until, finally, in 1945, a beautiful church was blessed by Bishop Byrne. It was designed by Father Anthony Frontera who also painted the picture of Our Lady of the Pilar over the main altar. Spacious living quarters are provided for the visiting priest in the back of the church.

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Santa Teresa del Nino Jesus

BRYAN

This church was built by Father Francis D. Urbanowsky, traveling missionary for the Mexicans, in 1940. In December, 1942, the Franciscans from Waco were placed in charge. Father Sebastian Lliteras, T.O.R., was the first in charge, and was succeeded by Father Frontera who has been serving since 1943.

Waco Deanery

St. Joseph's

MARLIN

As early as 1871, resident Catholics were recorded in the vicinity of Marlin. Father J. L. Bussant, was the first priest known to administer to the spiritual needs of these early Catholic settlers.

A more definite history begins with the year 1876, when Father Joseph Mosiewicz selected Marlin as the center for his missionary labors. The church and residence building was destroyed by fire in 1883, and Father Mosiewicz died of the burns he received in the accident.

Father P. M. Lennartz who was stationed at Temple, conducted monthly services in Marlin until June, 1886, when Father P. A. Heckman succeeded Father Lennartz, and undertook the task of erecting a new church. In 1889, the administration of the parish was given to Father A. Badelon of Waco. The new church was finished and blessed in January, 1890.

The parish was without a resident priest from 1883 until January, 1900, when Father O. Schorer was appointed the resident pastor.

From 1903 to 1911, the congregation was served by Father B. C. Pfiffner. During his administration, a building serving both as a school and residence for the teachers was erected, and additions were made to the rectory. Father Pfiffner was succeeded by Father George Apel who served the congregation for two years.

In 1913, Father C. Weisnerowski was appointed pastor. During his pastorate a brick church of Gothic design was constructed. On November 30, 1916, the new church was blessed by the Most Reverend N. A. Gallagher.

Within the years 1920 to 1929 Fathers S. A. Zientek and later George A. Berberich served as pastor. In 1929, Father S. L. Kmiecik was appointed pastor. With the growing needs of the parish, a larger and finer Gothic structure was erected. It was dedicated in 1936 by the Most Reverend Christopher E. Byrne. In 1941, Father Kmiecik was succeeded by Father J. P. Witucki. In the same year the old rectory was demolished and a new one erected in its place. In the latter part of 1946, the church was extensively repaired and completely redecorated.

Sacred Heart

LOTT

Sacred Heart Parish began January 1, 1911, with Father B. C. Pfiffner as the first resident pastor. It had been a mission of Marlin under Father Pfiffner since April, 1906.

The church was completed by March 15, 1906, and dedicated by Father Pfiffner on Sunday, April 1, 1906, when the first Mass was said. Plans called for Mass one Sunday every month and on one week-day a month. On May 24, 1906, after Mass, the church's title, Sacred Heart, was chosen.

The parochial school and convent building were erected in early 1907, and opened on November 2nd with forty pupils attending. The Sisters of Divine Providence, San Antonio, took over the school in early September, 1911, and conducted it continuously until June, 1924. In September, 1924, the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, Houston, were placed in charge until June, 1928, when the school was closed. The rectory was built early in 1911.

The priests who served the parish as pastor are as follows: Fathers B. C. Pfiffner, Joseph I. Klein, John M. Thill, R. P. Schartz, George Berberich, A. M. Maechler, Thomas C. Healy, J. T. Geiser, Charles A. McNally, Franciscans (Waco), L. B. Kramer, J. J. O'Reilly and H. T. Schroeder, the incumbent.

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Santa Rita

SATIN

When the Franciscans of the T. O. R. came to Waco, the only church for the Mexicans in the central part of Texas was the little church of Santa Rita in Satin. At that time there were many Mexican families working in the cotton fields, and although many families have moved away, the church, which has been repaired many times, is still in use.

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Waco Deanery

St. Francis on the Brazos

WACO

The parish of St. Francis on the Brazos was established in 1924. The members of the T.O.R. of St. Francis came from distant Spain to take charge of the Mexican Catholics in central Texas at the invitation of Bishop Byrne. Waco was selected as the center of the missions which sprung up wherever there was a large enough number of Mexicans to merit the building of a church.

Father P. A. Heckman, pastor of the Assumption Church, had organized catechism classes for the Mexicans under the direction of the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur, as early as 1921.

At the request and expense of the Catholic Daughters of America, Father P. J. O'Reilly, C.S.C., of Austin came every month to administer to the Mexicans of Waco. In 1924, the Franciscans of the Third Order Regular arrived in Waco. Using the Church of the Assumption for religious services, and its basement for the teaching of catechism, the parish of St. Francis was officially established on July 20, 1924.

At the beginning of St. Francis, Miss Fanny G. Smith, a great benefactress, made possible the further development of the parish. Through her generosity, the old residence of Dr. W. H. Clifton was bought and occupied by the Franciscans on November 11, 1924.

With the financial help of the Catholic Daughters, the construction of a frame building was begun, and the first church was blessed on February 12, 1925. This building was partially destroyed by fire in July, 1927.

In the meanwhile a two-story parochial school had been built, and opened under the charge of the Sisters of St. Mary, who supplied the teaching staff from the Sacred Heart Academy. But since the Sisters sold their academy in 1946, it is used now for catechism instructions under the supervision of the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul from Providence Hospital, until a teaching community can be secured. A house across the street has been purchased to house the sisters.

As the plan for a new church to replace the one destroyed by fire, it was thought that nothing

would be more fitting than to erect a memorial to the first missionaries of Texas, members of the First Order of St. Francis. For this purpose it was decided to erect a reproduction of the famous mission church of San Jose in San Antonio.

On March 15, 1931, the cornerstone of the present church was solemnly laid and on November 26, of the same year, the church was dedicated by Bishop Byrne who, more than any one else, should be credited for erection of this beautiful monument to the early Christian heroes of Texas.

The first pastor was Very Reverend Michael Vidal, T.O.R., assisted by Father Gabriel Tous, T.O.R., and the lay brothers Francis Darder, Bartholomew Torrens and Joseph Conway. Under Father Vidal the location of the parish was obtained and the first church and school were built.

Father Pablo Puigserver came from Spain in 1926 as pastor, and with the untiring co-operation of Father Tous he built the present church, and served as pastor until his death nine years later.

Father John Domenge, who had replaced Father Tous in 1933, became pastor of St. Francis in 1934, at the death of Father Puigserver. In addition to the purchase of the house for the sisters, he has enriched the church with artistic murals in the sanctuary, and monumental Stations of the Cross in oil painting.

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Blessed Sacrament

CAMERON

In 1925 the Franciscans began to hold religious services for the numerous Mexican Catholics of Cameron, but it was not until 1927 that the church was built. It is a frame structure with a seating capacity of 260.

Father Gabriel Tous, T.O.R., was in charge of this mission from its beginning until 1931, when Father Michael Munar, T.O.R., replaced him and every Sunday for twelve years said Mass for the Mexican Catholics of Cameron, until his death in 1943. Father Munar paid the debt incurred in the building of the church, supplied living quarters for the priest and a meeting room for the associations.

He was succeeded by Father William Buades in the care of the mission.

Waco Deanery

St. Martin's

TOURS

The sturdy Catholic settlers of Tours, originally Martinsville, when they had built their own humble little homes, gave immediate consideration to the building of a home for their God, where Mass might be offered and where Christ in the Blessed Sacrament might be kept in their midst. On Monday of Holy Week, 1874, under the guidance of Father Bussant, pastor at Waco, they began to build the first little log church. Six days later, on Easter Sunday, Father Fleury held the first services. On April 25, 1874, the little church was dedicated to God in honor of St. Martin of Tours.

Among the next group of settlers who came in December, 1874, was Heinrich Hardtrup, a graduate of the Franciscan College, Quincy, Illinois. He taught the first school in Tours and instructed the children every Sunday in Christian Doctrine.

The first little rectory of Tours was destroyed by a storm in 1882. Father Joseph of Marlin, who was then in charge of St. Martin's, had a three-room rectory built the same year. In 1886 a larger rectory was erected for Father Adelaar who became the first resident priest. It was he who began the frame building in 1887 to replace the log church, but he remained for only a short time; the church was finished by his successor, Father Carl Preis, in 1888.

In the summer of 1889 the Most Reverend N. A. Gallagher appointed Father J. B. Gleissner as pastor. During his administration in 1890 the first parochial school was constructed and the Sisters of Divine Providence of San Antonio were procured as teachers; they have been teaching the children of Tours ever since. This was probably the first free parochial school in the Galveston Diocese and perhaps in the state of Texas.

On February 13, 1940, Father J. T. Geiser was appointed pastor of St. Martin's and has remained in that position to the present time.

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Assumption

WEST

Assumption Parish was organized in the year 1891 by Father J. B. Gleissner, at that time pastor at Martinsville (now Tours). The first church, a frame structure, was built in 1892.

The first resident pastor, Father G. Sebik, arrived in 1895. He immediately made plans for the erection of a Catholic school. The first school was built in 1899. Three Sisters from the Congregation of Divine Providence, San Antonio, were employed as teachers.

In 1900, Father Joseph Pelnar was appointed pastor. On March 16, 1903, the frame church was destroyed by fire. The same year, the construction of the present brick church was begun. The cornerstone was blessed by Bishop N. A. Gallagher on August 2, 1903, and in the spring of 1904, the church was solemnly dedicated. The first parish hall was built in 1908.

In the year 1917, the present six-room brick school was built. The old frame schoolhouse was remodeled into a home for the sisters. In 1922 the old rectory was sold and a new brick eleven-room rectory erected.

In the year 1936, the old wooden parish hall was sold and a new brick two-story hall constructed, while in the following year a new brick residence for the sisters was completed. On June 5, 1940, Monsignor Pelnar celebrated the Golden Jubilee of his ordination and also his fortieth anniversary as pastor in West. In December, 1940, Monsignor Pelnar died.

On February 12, 1941, Father E. J. Poleak was appointed pastor. The assistant is Father George Doskocil and the parish now numbers nearly 500 families.

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St. Mary's

CALVERT

This little church was used until 1939 for the English-speaking Catholics and was attended from St. Joseph's Church in Bryan. But as most of them moved away, it was turned over to the Mexican Catholics and placed under the jurisdiction of the Franciscans.

Waco Deanery

St. Mary's Catholic Missions

LAMPASAS

Some sixty-two years ago, Bishop Nicholas A. Gallagher established the first St. Mary's in Lampasas. The Bishop also purchased a small church and property in Killeen in 1904. For many years, after 1885, Mass was celebrated once a month in St. Mary's.

Father P. A. Heckman, then of St. Mary's in Temple, was the first of many priests to offer monthly Mass in Lampasas. Usually he came on horseback and remained overnight in a small sacristy. For eight years he labored and left a noble example for the fifteen priests who have followed him.

During the twenty-five years, from 1902 to 1927, ten priests carried on Father Heckman's work, and among those zealous priests, one was a bishop. For St. Mary's had the rare privilege of having the Bishop of the Diocese as its acting pastor when the Most Reverend Christopher E. Byrne took charge of St. Mary's for several weeks in 1921.

Soon after the arrival of Father Thomas A. Ryan in 1927, a rectory was built, and thus Father Ryan became the first resident pastor in Lampasas. It was also during his pastorate that the parishioners at Lometa financed and built their present red-brick Church of the Good Shepherd.

Other zealous priests who served as pastor were the Revs. Henry T. Schroeder, Thomas A. Carney, T. T. Cronin, Louis A. LeBlanc and William F. Roach.

Under Father William F. Roach, from 1939 to 1945, St. Mary's and its missions began its greatest program of expansion and growth. Five large churches were erected: Our Mother of Sorrows at Burnet, a new St. Mary's, St. Christopher's at Lampasas, Our Lady of Lourdes at Gatesville, and Sacred Heart at Killeen.

St. Mary's also has another mission church at Bertram, Texas. Originally, this was built by the pastor of St. Helen's parish at Georgetown, Father Joseph Houser, C.S.C. He erected Holy Cross Church at Bertram from the money New York Police gave to Father Daniel Gleason, C.S.C.,

on the occasion of his ordination to the priesthood. In 1945, the Bishop of Galveston placed this mission church under the care of St. Mary's Missions, Lampasas, Texas. Eugene L. Dore, C.S.C., is the pastor and Father Frederico Schmidt, C.S.C., is the assistant.

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Visitation

WESTPHALIA

In February, 1884, the first services were held in the church built by the early settlers of Westphalia. In May of that year, the church was partly destroyed by a storm, and again in 1893, after which, work on the present large church was begun and the building completed in 1895.

The priests who were first in charge of the parish were from St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas, among whom was the Most Reverend Peter J. Hurth, C.S.C., who later became Bishop of Dacca, Bengal, India, and still later, Bishop of Nueva Segovia, Philippine Islands.

Another priest from St. Edward's who served Westphalia was Father John Lauth, C.S.C., who was president of St. Edward's from 1881 to 1883. At one time Westphalia was a missionary parish served by Father P. A. Heckman from Temple, Texas. From March 23, 1893, Father Michael Heintzelmann served this parish. After the death of Father Heintzelmann in January, 1925, Father Otto Bauer served as pastor until his death on April 15, 1935.

Father Robert P. Schertz succeeded Father Bauer, taking charge of the parish on July 2, 1935, and under his able leadership, the church school, and community have made splendid progress.

In 1889, the Sisters of Divine Providence took over the school which had been opened in 1886 by Brother Stephen Geiser. In 1922, a new school and convent were built. In recent years the parochial and public schools were combined and the entire school system of eleven grades is taught by five Sisters of Divine Providence and one lay teacher.

Six boys of the parish have been ordained to the priesthood and thirty-two girls have entered the religious life, a remarkable record in a parish of less than 200 families.

Waco Deanery

St. Mary's

MEXIA

The parish of St. Mary's of the Immaculate Conception at Mexia has been in existence for about sixty years. Previous to the fall of 1886, this territory was connected with Corsicana as part of that parish which was then in the Diocese of Galveston. According to the oldest parish records the first church of Mexia was a frame building erected in the latter part of 1886 on the site of the present church property. The ground was originally a gift from the City of Mexia to the Catholic settlers of the town.

Priests of the Immaculate Conception Church of Corsicana attended the Mexia Church until the creation of the Diocese of Dallas in 1890, when it became an independent mission. For several years Msgr. J. B. Gleissner of Bryan and Father Simon Spinneweber came weekly to administer to the spiritual needs of the small congregation. Following these priests in their missionary work were Father S. A. Zientek and Father Charles Weisnerowski.

At the close of the year 1905, St. Mary's Church of Teague, now a mission of Mexia, was built by Father George Apel. The first resident pastor, Father John J. Gallagher, lived in the newly built church at Teague and cared for the people at Mexia.

Father Gallagher took over his parochial duties

in October, 1905, and was succeeded by Father Edward Hynes in April, 1912. About eighteen months later Father Charles Weisnerowski succeeded Father Hynes as pastor. Father S. A. Zientek served as temporary parish priest from 1920 until Father Joseph H. Kelly began his pastorate in November, 1921. The present brick veneer church was built at Mexia in 1925. At this same time the first rectory was built. Shortly after completion it was destroyed by fire and was immediately replaced with the present priest's home and garage apartment.

In March, 1926, Father James P. McCarthy was appointed successor to Father Kelly and served as pastor for almost two years. He in turn was followed by Father John J. Casserly who resigned as pastor in 1943, after sixteen years of service. On October 10, 1943, the present pastor, Father Thomas J. Prendergast, was appointed to take Father Casserly's place.

Recent outstanding contributions to the church plant are the reconstruction and renovation of the mission church in Teague, which was completed in August, 1944, and the outdoor shrine of Our Lady of All Grace at Mexia, which was built in 1945.

The present number of Catholic families in Mexia is forty-five and in Teague, twenty-five.



ST. MARY'S, TEAGUE

Waco Deanery

St. Joseph's

BRYAN

St. Joseph's is the mother church of Bryan. Its history goes back to at least 1870. Mass was said out-of-doors, as the dwellings of the early settlers consisted only of one or two small rooms.

Ultimately a place was bought and a church was built one block from the present location of St. Joseph's Church. After the first church burned down, a block of ground with a school building on it was purchased and the school was transformed into a church. The priest appointed to take charge of this parish was Father C. Clair. A Polish nobleman, Victor Count de Lisicki was Father Clair's successor. He remained here until his death in July, 1884. Within the next six years, Fathers Laski, J. Grabinger, Peter Litwora and James Dunn acted as pastors.

In July, 1890, Father Joseph Pelnar, a newly ordained priest came to St. Joseph's. Under him the church was repaired, a new high altar bought, and improvements made. Father Pelnar was transferred and Father Charles Kolin was pastor from April, 1900, until February, 1902.

Father Francis Machan succeeded Father Kolin and was pastor until 1904. A new church was built under Father Machan. The late Bishop Gallagher then appointed the Rev. J. B. Gleissner of St. Mary's, Hearne, to be pastor of St. Joseph's.

Under his administration, St. Joseph's was remodeled. A new parochial free school was erected; also a comfortable rectory was built for three priests doing the work in the parish and nearby A. & M. College of Texas.

Right Reverend J. B. Gleissner is still pastor and Rev. T. J. Valenta and the Rev. Edward Matocha are the assistant pastors.

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St. Mary's

COLLEGE STATION

In March, 1904, the Rev. J. B. Gleissner was appointed by the late Bishop N. A. Gallagher to take charge of St. Joseph's Parish, Bryan. Sunday after Sunday, the distance traveled by the half dozen boys from A. & M. College who came to Mass was a source of great gratification to the parishioners of St. Joseph's. The number grew from year to year and soon the pastor of Bryan visited them on one or two Sundays a month.

When about 120 Catholic students attended, Mass was said each Sunday in the C. E. building. Dean Frank Skeeler, now at Notre Dame, Indiana, took a great interest in the Catholic students. Through his efforts a Newman Club was started with six members, and at present it has a membership of over 480.

During the World War I many Catholic servicemen attended Mass; so Father Gleissner laid plans for a chapel before the council of the Knights of Columbus of Texas, and they agreed to build it.

On the second Sunday of May, 1926, the blessing of St. Mary's Chapel took place and Bishop C. E. Byrne officiated.

During the recent World War, many more Catholic servicemen visited the chapel to assist at Mass. At present, about 1,000 Aggies, veterans, and college people attend Mass there.

To date, there have been a number of converts, and three Aggies have changed the uniform for the seminarian's cassock. Father Ernest Michalka was the first, then Father James Nelson and Father Frank Schanzer.

Two and a half acres of ground have been purchased on the south end of the college, where another chapel will eventually be built.

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Bryan Deanery

St. Monica's

CAMERON

The beginning of this parish in Cameron, Milam County, was in the year 1883. First services were held in the house of Mr. and Mrs. David Meyers, who donated the five-acre plot of ground, where the church building now stands. The group of buildings consists of church, rectory, convent, and school. Two acres were set aside for burial purposes. In 1916, two acres adjoining the present land were acquired.

In 1886, Father P. M. Lennartz, who had charge of Temple, was also given charge of Cameron. Father Lennartz made the necessary arrangements to erect a brick building on the site. This church was built and named for St. Anthony, in 1890.

The parish was served by Father Heckman until 1890 when Father Dennis Logue, who was given charge of Burlington, also took charge of Cameron for the next two years.

The priests serving as pastors until the fall of 1894 were Fathers Thomas Keaney, M. M. Crowe, and B. C. Pfiffner, J.D.C. Father Peter Bienemann was appointed to Burlington and Cameron in 1894 and remained until 1905. His first move was to conduct a school. The convent was built and school held in the church. The Sisters of Divine Providence took charge. Later the school-house, which is still in use, was built.

It was under this able administration that a church was built in 1904. The building was completed, and dedicated by Bishop Gallagher in December of that year.

Father Simon Spinneweber took charge in June, 1905, and Cameron became an independent parish. The parish continued its growth under his able direction. At this time the name was changed to St. Monica's Parish.

In July, 1924, Father George Apel, was appointed to St. Monica's Parish and in February, 1927, the wooden edifice of St. Monica's Parish was destroyed by fire. A finer church was built immediately and dedicated by Bishop Byrne in June, 1928.

In 1935 a new school was built by Father George Apel. On June 10, 1940, the old rectory, convent and school was wrecked, and a new rectory and convent were built in September of that year. Many other improvements have been made recently. Father George Duda is the present pastor.

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Ss. Cyril and Methodius

MARAK, CAMERON

Marak is a small Czech community, about seven miles northwest of Cameron. The first Catholic Church was built in 1903. Father Kaspar Kacer, who at that time was stationed in Frenstat, traveled that distance once a month to say Mass in the Marak Church.

On December 31, 1904, Bishop Gallagher appointed Father Kacer resident pastor of the Marak Parish, and he served in that capacity until his death December 27, 1942.

Upon his coming, Father Kacer organized several societies. The parish school building was built in 1925 and the first sisters came from St. Ludmilla's Convent, Shiner, Texas. An outstanding event in the life of the parish was the occasion of the first Mass offered by one of its sons, Father James Hanak, on June 22, 1915. On December 2, 1919, Father Kacer celebrated his Silver Jubilee. Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, the then new Bishop of Galveston, was present, together with ten other priests.

On December 4, 1942, Father Kacer became seriously ill and Father Ben Holub, assistant in East Bernard, was appointed by the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne to come to Marak. Father Kacer died December 26 of that year, and Father Holub was appointed administrator of the parish. He holds that post to this date.

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Bryan Deanery

St. Mary's

PLANTERSVILLE

St. Mary's Parish at Plantersville, which prior to 1896 consisted of a small church and a small congregation, has grown to about sixty families, with church and school.

Father James I. Klein, was put in charge of the parish and he immediately purchased a tract of land about three miles north of Plantersville and began to build a new church. Although there was a mere handful of Catholics with very limited means, the work progressed rapidly. In a short time the first Mass was said in the new but unfinished church.

Father Klein also built two schools, as more and more families moved in, and he saw to it that there were always Catholic teachers in charge.

A few years later, Father Klein was transferred and St. Mary's became a mission, with Father Jacob Schnetzer in charge for two years. Father George Wilhelm, served as a resident pastor, until a new church was built at near-by Stoneham, and Father M. A. Dombrowski was put in charge of both parishes.

Later St. Mary's was put under Stoneham with Father Weisnerowski residing at Stoneham. Later Father J. B. Gleissner of Bryan was appointed to attend their needs.

Soon Father George Apel was appointed pastor of Plantersville and under him the parish grew, societies were organized, the parish house was enlarged and many other improvements were made.

In July, 1917, the church was completely destroyed by a fire. Father Apel at once made plans to rebuild, and the present church was erected in an unusually short time, without contracting any debts on the church property.

In 1924 Father Apel was replaced by Father Robert Schertz who continued the progress of the parish. A two-story rectory was built, a deep-water well was drilled, and water works were installed.

Father George Elmendorf replaced Father Schertz in 1935 and a Deleo light plant was installed and many other improvements made. St. Mary's gained electric lights and a butane gas heating system during the three years that Father John Geiser was pastor.

The present pastor is Father Fabian Stindle who was appointed in 1940.

Three boys from St. Mary's have been ordained to the priesthood: Father S. Claude Thorp, John Diehl, and Ben A. Wagner.

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St. Stanislaus'

ANDERSON

The Catholic people of Anderson, Texas, originally came from Poland (Prussia) about 1870 and during a period of five or six years, had services in private homes, and Holy Mass once every two or three months.

The first Catholic Church of Anderson was erected in 1876 by Father Felix Orzechowski, who came from Warsaw, Poland, and who took care of the spiritual work until July 16, 1882.

Father C. Polijanski came from New York City to Anderson, Texas, in 1883. He returned to New York less than a year later. His successor, Father A. Laski came in 1888. In 1890, Father J. Chalcarz came to Anderson, staying for two years. Father A. Sulek succeeded in November, 1892. He worked among the Catholic people of Anderson for a period of three years.

Anderson again was left without a priest for a period of two years, during which time Father Joseph J. Klein from Plantersville took care of the Church. Father F. Pruss succeeded Father Klein in August, 1897. During his time, he built a frame church. In February, 1904, he was succeeded by Father Peter Litwora, who labored among his people the next eight years. Father M. A. Dombrowski came after Father Litwora in January, 1912.

Father N. T. Domanski, the present pastor, succeeded Father Dombrowski in June, 1916. The first wooden church which Father Pruss built, was ruined by the 1915 storm and Father Domanski, built the present brick church which was completed in 1917. The Catholic Church of Anderson has a new brick school building, but the plan of conducting a regular teaching school is very difficult, as the people are scattered in three different localities, seven to eleven miles from the school.

Bryan Deanery

St. Michael's

BURLINGTON

St. Michael's Church in Burlington had its origin in the summer of 1885 when eight Catholic families got together to build a church in the area known then as the Irish Settlement.

The little church was blessed and named St. Michael's on that saint's feast day, September 29, 1885. Father Francisus, C.S.C., traveled seventy-five miles from Bellville in two days for the occasion and said the first Mass after the blessing.

Ten years prior to this, however, Catholics began to settle in the Irish Settlement, and their first Mass was said by Father Boussant of Waco in March, 1879, in a log cabin. Other priests who served the "people without a church" in these early days were Fathers Victor of Bryan, Allen of Calvert, and John Lauth, C.S.C., of Taylor.

After it was built, the church was served by the Fathers of the Holy Cross. Sometime after 1887, when the name of the settlement was changed from Waterford to Burlington, Fathers Lennartz, Heckman, and Wertz, all of the Congregation of the Precious Blood, went alternately to the parish from Temple.

Father Wertz, who served the parish from 1890-1893, built the first school in 1891. His successors during the following two years were Fathers Logue, M. M. Crowe, and Thomas Keany.

Father Peter Bienemann, for ten years pastor of St. Michael's Parish, built a new church during the first two years of his administration, which was dedicated on December 22, 1896.

Later the rectory was enlarged, and a two-room school and three-room sisters' residence were built. Sisters of the Divine Providence were in charge of teaching until 1921 when they were replaced by Dominican Sisters.

After 1905, succeeding pastors were Fathers Clement Lowrey, M. P. McSorley, B. C. Pfiffner, and Joseph I. Klein, and in September, 1919, J. J. O'Reilly. In 1920, the present convent was built and the old school was moved and remodeled. Father J. J. Casserly succeeded Father O'Reilly in 1922, and following him were J. J. Kearns, F. H. Rops, and Simon Spinneweber.

After Father J. T. Moriarity became pastor in 1926, a new and larger church which replaced the frame structure was dedicated in November, 1929.

In July, 1934, Father Thomas F. O'Sullivan became pastor. The school, closed during the depression, was reopened and placed in charge of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament of Houston. After seven years Father O'Sullivan was succeeded by Father A. L. O'Connell, who in turn was succeeded in 1942 by the present pastor, Father M. O'Regan.

Burlington in its time has furnished in vocations five priests and eight sisters.

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St. Joseph's

CYCLONE

Cyclone, a farming community between Burlington and Temple, is served by the pastor at Burlington, Father Michael O'Regan.

At the turn of the present century, Father Simon Spinneweber from Cameron said Mass periodically in the old schoolhouse. In 1901, Father Kaspar Kacer came once a month from Frenstat to attend the spiritual needs of the people.

In June, 1902, a frame church was erected. On January 1, 1904, Father Kacer was transferred to Marak and served the people of Cyclone from there until 1940, when it was then attached to Lott, with Father Henry Schroeder as pastor.

After about five years of his administration it was attached to Burlington in July, 1945. It is a very thriving community and has a congregation of seventy-five Catholic families.

The old frame church erected in 1902 is still in use, but funds are being accumulated to erect a new church and rectory, so that in time it may become a parish with a resident pastor. A Catholic cemetery adjoins the church.

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East Bernard Deanery



*St. Theresa, Sugarland
Christ the King, Newgulf*

*St. Francis of Assisi, Giddings
Sacred Heart, Wadsworth*

St. Stanislaus, Chapel Hill

East Bernard Deanery



Rectory, School, Sister's Home, Church; La Grange
Ss. Peter and Paul, Frelsburg *Holy Family, Wharton*
Ss. Peter and Paul, Bellville

Granger Deanery



Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Granger

St. Helen's, Georgetown

St. William's, Round Rock

St. Rose of Lima, Andice

St. Margaret Mary's, Leander

East Bernard Deanery



Sacred Heart, Richmond

St. Michael's, Needville

Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Damon Mound

St. Roche's, Mentz

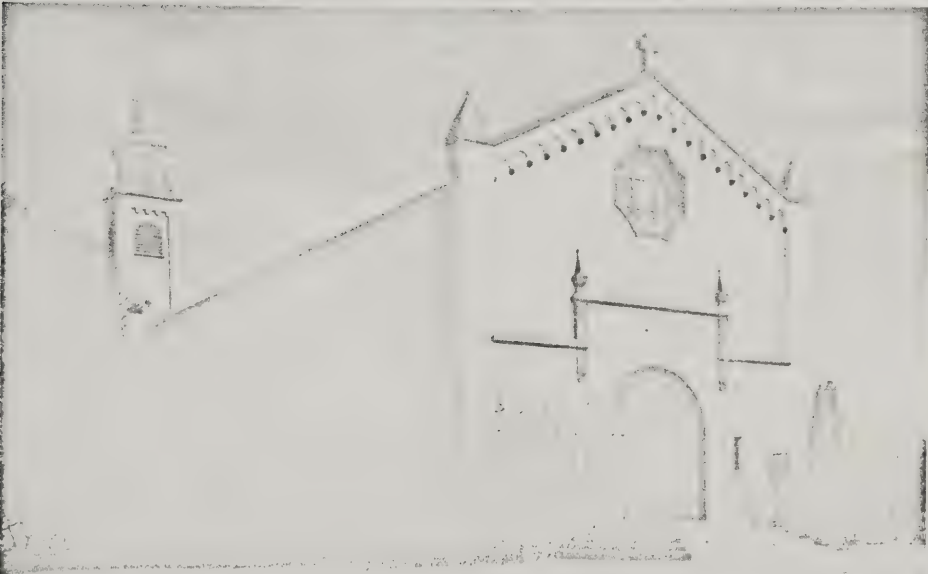
East Bernard Deanery



*Our Lady of Guadalupe, Rosenberg
St. Joseph's, Dime Box*

*Holy Cross, Bay City
St. Mary's, Brenham*

Granger Deanery



Holy Trinity, Jarrell

Holy Cross, Bertram

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Temple

St. Mary's, Temple



Sacred Heart, Elgin Our Lady of Guadalupe, Taylor St. Joseph's, Rockdale
Holy Cross, Austin Our Lady of Guadalupe, Austin
St. Austin's, Austin

Granger Deanery



St. Christopher's, Lampasas

St. Mary's, Taylor

St. Joseph's, Manor

Sacred Heart, Bastrop

St. Elizabeth, Pflugerville

Bryan Deanery

St. Mary's

CALDWELL

The beginning of Catholicity in the parish of 200 years, when the area was consecrated by the Our Lady of Lourdes, Caldwell, dates back some labors of the Franciscan missionaries.

The definite history of the parish begins near the end of the nineteenth century. It is believed that the first Mass was the one celebrated by Father Jacob Lauth of Austin in August, 1893, in the home of Charles Windhausen, with a few Czech and German families attending.

Father Kaspar Kacer, pastor of the Frenstat parish, visited Caldwell in 1894. Between 1900 and 1903, he made more frequent visits to the parish church.

A small frame church was built and furnished by the parishioners, and the first Mass was offered in it on August 1, 1895.

In 1899, a tract of three acres adjoining the church property on the north was bought for a cemetery.

The well-known storm of 1900 destroyed the church, but through the charity of the faithful in the area, the parishioners were able to rebuild. The dedication on September 18, 1901, brought to the Caldwell parish the first visit of the Bishop.

Father J. B. Gleissner, pastor of Hearne made his first visit to Caldwell on September 7, 1903, and worked untiringly for the people until his transfer to St. Joseph's Church in Bryan. It was through his endeavors that Father William Skocek visited the parish in 1904.

A rectory was built in 1905 and finally in January, 1908, Father Joseph C. Kunc was appointed resident pastor, with Frenstat, Dime Box, and Snook as missions.

While Father Kunc was pastor, the parish purchased an acre of land across the road from the church, where in 1917 a school building was begun. Uncompleted at the time of Father Kunc's transfer, the building was finished by the parishioners, and is now used as a parish hall.

The parish had the distinction of having one of its sons ordained to the priesthood in 1917. This was Father Max Budnik, who served his home parish at the time.

Father James Kveton became pastor of the parish in 1918, and during his stay, the rectory was enlarged and remodeled, city water was installed in the church and the rectory, and a main altar was placed in the church. He also had charge of the mission at Dime Box.

Father William Skocek succeeded Father Kveton in 1922 and served until his death on March 16, 1929.

Until April, 1930, Father E. Holub served the parish as a visiting priest, and then Father Thomas C. Healy was appointed to Caldwell. For four months in 1931, the parish was administered by Father Thomas Ryan.

Father Joseph F. Hanak had charge of the Caldwell parish from August 5, 1931, until May, 1933. However, he was changed back to Caldwell in June, six years later, and served until his death, November 30, 1941.

During Father Hanak's six-year absence, Father Frank D. Urbanowsky was placed in charge. He had the church remodeled and enlarged to more than twice its original capacity, and left the parish with a piece of his own handiwork, the Lourdes Grotto.

Father Urbanowski returned as administrator of the Caldwell parish after the death of Father Hanak.

The present pastor, Father V. A. Svrcsek, appointed February 6, 1942, has a splendid record of accomplishment.

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Bryan Deanery

St. Mary's

HEARNE

The history of St. Mary's at Hearne began in the early seventies, when Hearne was the terminal of the Southern Pacific Railway. Many parishioners were the laborers for the railroad. A church was built on the ground given by the railroad company and the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word opened a hospital.

After a few years, the terminal of the railroad was Groesbeck, and Hearne was almost a forsaken place until a roundhouse was built.

As the priests were few, Hearne was attended by priests from Palestine, Waco and Houston. Fathers Thion, Badelon, and Martiniere were the pioneer priests. In 1894, Bishop Nicholas A. Gallagher appointed Father J. B. Gleissner to be pastor of Hearne and the missions. The little church had just been finished by the late Father Bienemann, who came from Burlington once a month to hold services for the Hearne Catholics.

Soon the good people erected a comfortable rectory. Father (now Monsignor) Gleissner, now of Bryan, remained seven and a half years with them and attended the missions attached to Hearne: Calvert, Groesbeck, Mexia, Navasota, Hempstead, Waller, Spring Creek, Milano, Rockdale, Caldwell, Frenstat, West, Franklin, New Baden and the coal mines. In 1935 a storm destroyed St. Mary's. It was about two years before a new church could be built. The Crenan heirs generously donated a quarter of a block on the west side towards rebuilding St. Mary's. As a great number of Catholics moved to the plantations in the Brazos River bottoms, Hearne was attached to St. Anthony's Church in Bryan, and Father Peter Villani celebrated Mass every Sunday.

In 1943 a fire damaged the interior of the church, but it was repaired. On November 13, 1945, the Rev. Hiram J. Eastland was appointed pastor of Hearne and the surrounding territory. For a year he also took care of St. Joseph's Church at High Bank.

In February, 1946, the parish purchased from the Crenan heirs the three lots behind the church for a rectory and a home for the sisters. A block

of ground across from this property will be purchased for a school. Two Masses are now being celebrated every Sunday in St. Mary's Church.

Holy Rosary

FRENSTAT

Frenstat was first attended by Father Joseph Chromcik from Fayetteville, in 1886. He said Mass in private homes until 1888 when a small school which served as a church was built.

In 1889 a church was built at Frenstat and was named Holy Rosary. Father Chromcik visited Frenstat a few times a year. Later, other priests who attended Frenstat were Fathers Fabian, K. Preis, Gajdosik, and Laski.

In 1895, Holy Rosary received its first resident pastor, Father K. Kacer. Father Kacer attended missions at Dime Box and Caldwell in Lee and Burleson Counties. Caldwell soon received a priest, but Dime Box remained a mission of Frenstat.

From 1905 to 1907, Father J. B. Gleissner attended Frenstat from Bryan. Father Joseph C. Kunc was pastor until 1941, when Father Jacob Kveton was appointed pastor. He remained until 1918. Then Father Joseph Klobouk was pastor until 1926, at which time Holy Rosary again became a mission and was attended by Father A. Nicholson, Father Joseph Valenta and others.

In 1927 Holy Rosary once again had a resident pastor, Father Innocent Raska, who remained until 1931 when the present pastor, Father Thomas J. Matl was appointed.

Many improvements have been made in the church, rectory, and grotto in the last few years.

St. Joseph's

DIME BOX

St. Joseph's Parish, in Lee County, was established in 1909 as a mission of Frenstat. In that same year a church and small rectory were built. St. Joseph's was then attended by Fathers J. C. Kunc, J. V. Kveton, W. J. Skocek, I. Raska, Thos. Healy, and T. A. Ryan. Father L. A. Sampson was made first resident pastor of St. Joseph's and was succeeded by Father Joseph Hanak, who remained until 1933. At this time St. Joseph's was

Bryan Deanery

again made a mission of Holy Rosary of Frenstat, and has been attended every Sunday by Father Thomas J. Matl.

In the past few years many improvements have been made in the church, among them, a new roof, the installation of electric lights, and the repainting of the altar and statues by the pastor himself.

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St. Anthony's

BRYAN

The Church of St. Anthony, Bryan, was built and established as a regular parish in 1896 to take care of a very large group of Italian families who had moved there from Louisiana to work on the cotton plantations. The church was built on Polk Avenue. The pastor was Father A. Petillo, appointed by Most Reverend N. A. Gallagher, then Bishop of Galveston. He served the parish until 1898, and was succeeded through the years to 1921 by Fathers B. Del Guidice, B. C. Pfiffner, G. LaRosa, G. Militello, A. De Simone, and M. J. Leahy.

The parish was vacant between 1921-22 and the people were helped by the priest of St. Joseph's Church at Bryan, but Reverend Father Basil Bravi, O.S.B., was appointed pastor of St. Anthony's in August, 1922.

While Father Bravi was visiting in Rome in 1926, the church, a frame building, was completely destroyed by fire. Upon his return, Father Bravi immediately started the construction of a new church, located at 308 South Parker Avenue, which was solemnly dedicated in December, 1927. The cost of the new church was \$75,000, which was paid in full by 1945.

Father Peter Villani, O.S.B., has been assistant to Father B. Bravi since September, 1929.

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St. Mary's

BREMOND

St. Mary's is the largest Polish parish in the state of Texas.

Four times a year, Father Boussant held services in Bremond. In 1877, Father Mosiewicz of Marlin came once a month. For some time Father Casimer Polulanski was resident pastor, and in 1888, Father Peter Litwora was made pastor.

Father Francis Machan served as pastor for a short period, then Father Anthony Krepajitis served until his death in 1907.

In 1908, Msgr. Ignatius Szymanski was appointed pastor. He served until his death in March, 1940.

Father John Witucki was administrator until the appointment of the present pastor, Father Stanislaus L. Kmiecik in 1941.

When the new church was built in 1908, the old church was converted into a school. In 1911, three Sisters from St. Joseph's in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, took charge of the school; then in 1918 the Sisters of Incarnate Word from Shiner, Texas, continued to instruct the children. Since 1932 the school has been in charge of the Felician Sisters of Chicago, Illinois.

The Most Reverend C. E. Byrne blessed the new school, which was ready for occupation in 1937.

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Immaculate Conception

BRYAN

In the spring of 1942, Father Urbanowsky who was laboring among the Mexican people in Bryan, also made efforts to bring some colored souls into the true fold. With some success and encouragement, he purchased a plot of ground for the erection of a Catholic Church for them. In April, 1942, Father Michael McCormack, at the request of the Superior General of the Josephite Fathers, was sent to Bryan to build the church, which was dedicated the same year by Bishop Byrne under the title of the Immaculate Conception.

Father Michael McCormack, having finished his work of building the church and purchasing a rectory, returned to his mission at Orange, Texas, and his brother, Father Patrick, took his place as the first pastor of this Church. He remained until April, 1946. Father Donald R. Jacobs, S.S.J., was sent to replace Father McCormack. At this time two other missions were entrusted to Father Jacobs by the Bishop, to be attended from Bryan. These two missions are Old Washington where Sacred Heart Church consists of about forty souls, and Prairie View College which is a colored college just outside of Hempstead.

Palestine Deanery

Sacred Heart

PALESTINE

The history of Sacred Heart Parish began with the advent of Father Louis Granger, who first came to Palestine in 1872. Father Granger would travel from Nacogdoches on horseback to Palestine where he celebrated Mass in the old Masonic Hall, and then he would travel from Palestine to Huntsville to say Mass at the penitentiary.

In 1873, a site was obtained for the purpose of building a church which was dedicated to St. Joseph. The first resident pastor was Father Badelon, who came in 1874 and remained until 1878. During his pastorate, adjoining property was bought, and in 1877 the Sisters of St. Agnes opened a school.

In 1878, Father James Chaland became pastor and he remained until 1889. In 1882, three Sisters of Divine Providence took charge of the school and in 1885, it was moved from the old location to the present site. Today, St. Mary's Academy is a two-story brick building with both grade and high school.

In 1889, Father C. M. Thion succeeded Father Chaland as pastor of the Palestine Church and in May, 1890, the frame church burned to the ground with all records and possessions of the parish. In June of the same year, the lot to the rear of the old church was purchased.

The cornerstone of the new church was laid in 1892, and the church was dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Later the rectory was built.

In the latter part of 1901, Father Bernard Lee succeeded Father Thion. Father Lee spent fifteen years as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish. Father George Wilhelm became pastor in 1915, and was succeeded by Father R. C. Frei in November, 1920.

After six years, he was succeeded by Father J. J. Kearns, who was followed by Father J. T. Moriarity in 1935. In September of that year, a new marble altar was placed in the sanctuary.

In 1942, the Palestine area was made into a deanery, and Father Moriarity became the Very Reverend Dean. In 1946, due to the illness of Father Moriarity, Father J. M. Cody was appointed administrator of the parish.

St. Joseph's

NEW WAVERLY

The parish of St. Joseph, New Waverly, was organized through the efforts of Father Felix Orzechowski, in 1870 with forty-two families, and services were held in private homes.

The first Mass was celebrated in Danville, a locality three miles south of New Waverly. The first church made its appearance in 1875 during the pastorate of Father Victor Lisicki.

In 1896 this building was converted into a school, and a new church was built.

Following Father Lisicki were Fathers Loski, Chalcarz, Polianski, Wylainowicz, Gaiduszen, Jaron and Walters.

Father Thomas A. Bily came in 1906 and remained there until his death in 1921 and was buried in a lot in front of the church. Two years after his arrival a new church was built; the present rectory was built at the time of the erection of the church.

Succeeding Father Bily were Fathers Rops, Coffey, Dykal, O'Regan, and Parmentier. The present pastor, Father Budnik, was appointed February 14, 1940, as successor to Father Fabian Stindle. There are over 100 families in the parish.

At present two Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word of Houston take care of the children. The present parochial school building was erected in 1936 during the time of Father Fabian Stindle's pastorate. It is a well built four-room structure.

The parish can boast of three in the priesthood, and four girls of the parish have entered the Incarnate Word Convent of Shiner.

Palestine Deanery

St. Patrick's

LUFKIN

The beginning of Catholicism in Angelina County may be traced to the erection of the Purissima Conception Mission on July 17, 1717.

In 1690, the mission of San Francisco de Los Tejas was erected at what is now the town of Weches; the Missionary Fathers found an Indian settlement there, and in this place held up the Cross of Christ in one hand and extended the other hand to the Indians.

The next important step to reestablish the missions in east Texas was made on February 2, 1840, when Father Timon, later Bishop of Buffalo, and Father Odin, later Bishop of Galveston, came to Nacogdoches and said Mass in the Old Stone Fort until the church was built there in 1847. The priests stationed at Nacogdoches served the Catholics in Angelina County from that time until 1928.

The present church was built in 1902 and was blessed by the Most Reverend Nicholas A. Gallagher. Father Theodore Drees was then pastor at Nacogdoches and was in charge of the Lufkin Mission. In 1924 during the pastorate of Father M. J. Daly the church was enlarged and repaired.

Early in the year 1928, the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne invited the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette to come into the Diocese. They were

given charge of St. Patrick's Church in Lufkin, and the missions attached to it.

The first resident pastor was Father Eugene C. Veillard, M.S. In 1933 a fire almost completely destroyed the church. The priests were fortunate to save the Most Blessed Sacrament, the vestments, altar linens and the statuary. The old Lufkin library building was used as a temporary chapel. The rebuilding of the church so advanced that Midnight Mass was celebrated in the partially restored church. The rectory was built soon after the completion of the church in 1934.

On Sunday, April 22, 1934, the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne solemnly blessed the restored church. The present parish of St. Patrick's comprises about seventy-five families.

The following is a list of the resident pastors of St. Patrick's Church: Fathers Eugene Veillard, M.S.; Bernard Reilly, M.S.; Edward V. Crowley, M.S.; Joseph Burnore, M.S.; Theodore Morin, M. S.; and the present pastor, Father Walter P. Fraher, M.S.

The assistant priests have been Fathers George Hoylen, M.S.; Francis Cahill, M.S.; Harold Clossey, M.S.; Thomas O' Leary, M.S.; William Hanafin, M.S.; and the present assistant, Father Thomas Nolan, M.S.

Palestine Deanery

Sacred Heart

NACOGDOCHES

Sacred Heart Parish had its beginning in the early mission period of east Texas, when the Mission of Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe was established by the Venerable Fray Antonio Margil de Jesus in 1716. This was followed by a second church built in 1802 in what is now the Court-house Square.

The church, which really marks the founding of the parish, was established in 1847 on North Pecan Street by the Right Reverend John Mary Odin, D.D. This wooden structure stood for ninety years, until it was replaced by the present church.

The Reverend Father Chanion had charge of the parish prior to June, 1847. When Bishop Odin founded the present parish, Father Louis Chambodut, Vicar-General of the Diocese, became its first pastor until the year 1853. Father A. S. Borrafo assumed charge of the parish during 1851 and 1852.

There was also a mission church at San Augustine, and later one at Moral.

Father Matthew J. Daly was pastor from August, 1922, until November, 1926. He was succeeded by Father M. J. Murray. The first La Salette pastor was Father Francis P. Crane, M.S., who came in 1934 and remained until 1940.

There were now three priests stationed in a small parish where for years only one priest served a far greater territory. Lufkin became a separate parish in 1928, reducing the Nacogdoches parish to five counties.

Father Crane built the parish church at its present location. He then rebuilt the former church at the mission of Fern Lake, since renamed St. Ann's. The Fathers then moved into a new rectory, formerly the home of Mrs. Louise Rhein, who donated both the new church site, her home, and later a duplex apartment for the sisters' convent.

Father Crane built mission churches at Bonaldo and Hemphill, and replaced the old church at San Augustine. Before leaving, he began construction of a school at St. Ann's.

Father Denis Monahan, M.S., who succeeded Father Crane as pastor in 1940, completed the school, and replaced the old church at Moral, since renamed La Salette.

In August, 1942, Father George Hoylen, M.S., became pastor. He opened the Holy Childhood Kindergarten in 1943.

Father Hoylen was succeeded by Father John M. Rohrman, M.S., in April, 1945.

On December 17, 1939, Nacogdoches had the privilege of an ordination of its first parishioner Father George V. Rhein in the new parish church.

At the present time, Sacred Heart Parish at Nacogdoches consists of nine churches, a rectory, school, kindergarten, convent, and 1,050 Catholics. Father John Rohrman, M.S., is the present pastor, assisted by Fathers Walter J. Rival, M.S., and Louis A. Van Dane, M.S.



East Bernard Deanery

Holy Cross

EAST BERNARD

East Bernard gained its first Catholic parish in 1909 when Father William Skocek began saying Mass in private homes. The first Catholic church property was one acre of land which was to serve as a cemetery.

A frame building provided the first church for the parish in 1905, and Exaltation of the Holy Cross was the name chosen.

Father Jacob Schnetzer was appointed the first resident priest in 1907. After his departure, a year later, East Bernard became a mission served from Wallis by Father Francis Machan until 1909, and by Father Wenceslaus Demel for the following twelve years.

When a parish house was built in 1921, Father Joseph C. Kune was appointed pastor. A school was organized a year later, and in 1925 a new church of brick and reinforced concrete construction was built. The church is of Spanish colonial architecture and has stained glass imported from Czechoslovakia.

A new school and sisters' home was built in 1928 in a style harmonizing with that of the church. Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament are in charge of the school, and the average enrollment is 120 to 150 pupils in the eight grammar grades. Eight girls of the parish have become sisters, and one boy has become a brother of Christian Schools of Lafayette, Louisiana.

The present pastor, Monsignor J. C. Kune, acted as director of the Propagation of the Faith for nine years. He was appointed Dean of the district west of Houston before becoming a Monsignor in December, 1943.

Assistants to the pastor since 1939, have been Fathers Ben Holub, George Doskocil, Jerome P. Vitek, and Alois Pavelka.

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St. Michael's

NEEDVILLE

The parish of Needville was started in the years 1901 and 1902, when a small number of settlers came into this vicinity, eleven miles south of Rosenberg. Father William Skocek, the pastor of the Catholic Church at Sealy, visited them a few times each year, saying Mass in private homes.

In 1910, Father Wenceslaus Demel became pastor of Wallis, and visited this settlement every month.

In 1911 there were about thirty families around Needville, Guy and Fairchilds; so with the help of Father Demel, they built a small church in Needville which was blessed by the Most Reverend N. A. Gallagher in 1912.

In 1915, Needville became a mission of Rosenberg with Father E. J. Hajek as pastor who said Mass twice each month.

In 1925, there were about 100 Catholic families in this area; so Father Innocence Raska was sent as first resident priest, January 17, 1926. A rectory was built the same year.

Father John Ev. Kalas became pastor of Needville and during his incumbency a new church was built in 1928. Father Joseph Hanak was appointed pastor in 1932, and from the lumber of the old church he built a schoolhouse. In June, 1937, he was sent to Caldwell. The parish was visited by professors of La Porte, Fathers Elias Holub and Joseph Valenta.

Father Joseph Klobouk was appointed pastor in December, 1937, with Damon Mound as a mission.

MISSION OF NEEDVILLE

Ss. Cyril and Methodius Church, Damon Mound, Brazoria, County

The little mission of about sixty families is located ten miles south of Needville. In 1925 Father James Kveton asked the settlers to build a small church.

When in 1926, Needville became an independent parish, Damon Mound was annexed to it as a mission. Father I. Raska and his successors have said Mass there twice a month. The little town with church in the center lies at the foot of a small hill, which gave it the name Damon Mound.

East Bernard Deanery

Holy Cross

BAY CITY

The missions of Matagorda County began in the early 1800's. As early as 1885 priests were sent from Annunciation Parish in Houston to attend the scattered Catholic families throughout Brazoria, Matagorda, and Fort Bend Counties.

Some of the early missionaries were Fathers Hennessy, McSorley, Keany, Pfiffner and Walsh. When the town of Bay City was established, the visiting priests would often offer Mass in the courthouse or in private homes.

Later the parishioners bought a small schoolhouse and converted it into a church with makeshift furnishings that were available.

In 1907, Father J. B. Schnetzer was appointed pastor and during his pastorate the church was built. It was dedicated in May, 1909, and named Holy Cross. Father Schnetzer, along with the Oblate Fathers Curry, De Anta, Houdan, and Lang continued work as missionaries in the parish and surrounding missions.

Father Montreuil assumed duties as pastor from 1910 to 1914, when again the Oblate Fathers took over. The building of the rectory was begun in 1919 by Father Curry, and it was completed in 1920, when Father John J. Kearns became the first resident pastor. This marked the return of the secular priests.

Succeeding Father Kearns and his assistant, Father M. J. Murray, was Father M. J. O'Regan in 1922. Following him were Father George Duda in 1927, Father O'Reilly in 1932 and Father Joseph Coffey in 1933.

Father Elmendorf came in March, 1937. He built a school in 1940, and helped the Mexicans to establish their church, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, which is now under the Basilian Fathers.

The present pastor at Holy Cross is Father C. J. Martin.

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Sacred Heart

WADSWORTH

(Mission of Bay City)

There was no Catholic Church in Wadsworth in the 1890's and therefore no school between Houston and Victoria. Father Montreuil, pastor of the Matagorda Missions, erected a building which served as church, school, and hall in 1912. The school lasted but two years because bad harvest ruined the prospects of these Catholic pioneers, and in 1913 they returned whence they came, with few exceptions, notably the Otis family.

The old school built by Father Montreuil was dismantled and the lumber was used by Father O'Regan to build a church at a new site on Wadsworth's Main Street. This church was completed in 1924 and serves the Catholic of Matagorda, Francisville and Wadsworth. For many years the priests assigned to Bay City served all the missions in the southern section of the Diocese. Freeport, Wharton, Rosenberg, and Danbury, formerly missions of Bay City, now have resident pastors. Wadsworth is now a mission of Bay City, with Father C. J. Martin, pastor.

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Ss. Peter and Paul

BELLVILLE

Peter Paul Wolnitzek, granduncle of Oscar Wolnitzek, the present sexton, came to Bellville in 1860 and Masses were first said in his home. In the year 1905, a fine church of red brick was constructed on land donated by Peter Paul Wolnitzek in whose honor the church was named.

Among the priests who in the early days of the parish served the spiritual needs of the people were the Revs. Jerome Rapp, Weimar, Dombrowski, Paul Nemecek, William Skocek, and Nesvadba.

In 1942, the Rev. A. J. Crann, the first resident pastor, was installed. Father Crann added a rectory in 1943.

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East Bernard Deanery

THE BASILIAN FATHERS MEXICAN MISSION CENTER

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church serves as the center for the missionary work of the Basilian Fathers among the Mexican people in the Galveston Diocese. The Basilian Fathers began their work among the Mexicans in August, 1936, when Father Joseph Dillon, C.S.B., took charge. The Basilian Fathers were given the territory that extends through the Brazos River valley. In January, 1938, a second priest joined Father Dillon and at the present time there are five priests engaged in this work.

Mass was first said for the Mexicans in the Rosenberg area in 1937 in the old dance hall which served as a church until 1939. In that year Father Dillon acquired a two-story building in Rosenberg that served as a residence for the two priests, and a chapel for Mass. A church was built by the priests and the Mexican men, aided by one carpenter, and was dedicated in April, 1940. The funds for the church were donated by the Catholics of Houston and the students in the schools taught by the Basilian Fathers in Canada and the United States. In 1942 a small school was started as a result of a donation from the Most Reverend Richard Cushing, Archbishop of Boston. The following year a house was bought for the Sisters of Divine Providence, who were in charge of the school.

Rosenberg is the center of a missionary work that covers a large area. It is a large parish with many missions attached, each of which has its own particular history. A brief account of each follows:

FREEPORT

The original St. Henry's Church at Freeport for the Mexicans was built by Father George Elmendorf and was destroyed by the storm in 1932. Until 1938, Mass was said once a month. The present church was built by five priests from St. Thomas' College, Houston, together with Father Dillon.

ALLEN FARM

The original church at Allen Farm consisted of two sharecroppers' huts joined together. Father Dillon acquired these in 1937. The present St. Benedict's Church was built by the priests and the Mexicans.

NEW GULF

Prior to 1938, the Mexicans here had Mass once or twice a year in the company hall. Christ the King Church was completed and dedicated on January 6, of the same year. The Basilian Fathers took charge but the church proved to be too small; so each year until 1941 a small addition was made until it reached its present size.

BAY CITY

The first work among the Mexicans of Bay City was done by Father Dillon in 1937 when he assembled them in the Holy Cross Church. This church was used once a month for Mass until 1940 when the Santa Fe Railway donated a baggage car that served as a church until the present Lady of Perpetual Help Church was built in 1944.

ANGLETON

The work at Angleton began in 1937. The home of Mr. T. Luna was used once a month for Mass. At the present time an unfinished house is used for a church in which Mass is said twice a month.

WHARTON

The Mexicans at Wharton use the Holy Family Church. Mass has been said every Sunday since 1942.

In addition to these places, there are other stations where the priests gather the people together for Mass and instruction. Among these are Eagle Lake, Simonton, Navasota, Courtney, Bonus, Egypt, Glen Flora and Fulshear.

East Bernard Deanery

The priests are: Fathers V. J. Fullerton, C.S.B., Superior; John Collins, C.S.B.; Wilfred Murphy, C.S.B.; Ralph O'Loughlin, C.S.B.; and W. M. Murphy, C.S.B.

Father Joseph Dillon, C.S.B., was the Superior and pastor from 1936 until 1946.

Father V. J. Fullerton is the present pastor and Superior.

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Sacred Heart

LA GRANGE

Sacred Heart Church, a wooden edifice built sixty years ago, looks as new today as the recent additions to it. It was moved to its present site in 1931, enlarged and remodeled to meet the growing needs of the congregation.

Prior to the erection of the church in 1887, the few Catholics in the area received spiritual ministrations from visiting missionary priests who said Mass in private homes.

The parish was not assigned a resident pastor until 1892. Until then Father V. Chlapik, pastor of Ellinger, had served La Grange once a month.

Father Michael Heintzelmann, the first pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, was succeeded after a year by Father P. M. Lennartz, who served until 1912. The succeeding pastors until 1928 were Fathers Otto Bauer, George Berberich, and E. A. Holub.

When Father S. A. Zientek, the present pastor, took charge in 1928, the growing parish was ready for expansion, with need for a school. It was with the purchase of the present five-acre plot that the parish expansion program was launched, and in 1929 a two-story rectory was built on the new grounds.

The original parsonage was converted into a two-classroom school and living quarters for the sisters. The parish school was realized in September, 1930, and Sisters of Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament of Victoria took charge of teaching. Only seven years later, with the church and rectory on the acreage, the final building plans were completed. A two-story combination school auditorium unit, and a convent, both frame and stucco like the rectory, were erected. The parish numbers above 160 families.

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St. Mary's

FRYDEK

St. Mary's Parish, Frydek, is a small parish three miles south of San Felipe. Four frame buildings, a church, rectory, convent, and school, stand on the present St. Mary's three-acre groved land.

Although Catholics, mostly of Czech origin, settled in and about San Felipe as early as 1852, St. Mary's Parish did not come into existence until 1908.

After 1883, Father Francis Pridal from Brenham took charge of the souls in Frydek and Sealy. In 1907, Father Machan, pastor of Immaculate Conception, Sealy, ordered that a collection be taken for an erection of a Catholic school which was to serve children from Frydek and Sealy. The building was erected in Frydek so that it would serve as a school, sisters' home, and church. That same year Father William Skocek became pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Sealy, and saw the school built, and blessed by the Most Reverend N. A. Gallagher on March 31, 1908, the same date St. Mary's became a mission parish of Immaculate Conception.

Sisters of Divine Providence taught in the new school, and they teach in Frydek at present. Fathers Skocek, M. Dombrowski, and Right Reverend Monsignor Joseph A. Valenta, served the parish in 1911 and 1912. In 1912 Father Paul Nemec was assigned to the parish and in 1916 he saw the school-church building moved to its present site and the present rectory built. The next year it became an independent parish, with Bellville and Brookshire for its missions. In 1922, Father Jan Kalas came to Frydek and built the present large frame church. Father Alois W. Nesvadba succeeded him in 1927 and built the sisters' home.

Between 1936 and 1944, Fathers Joseph Klobouk, Francis Klinkacek and I. Raska served as pastors of St. Mary's, during which time the two-room parochial school was built. Father Lad Klimicek became pastor in 1944.

Four girls who have attended St. Mary's Parochial School became Sisters of Divine Providence, and two boys became priests of God.

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East Bernard Deanery

St. John's

FAYETTEVILLE

The history of this parish begins about the year 1855, with the arrival of two families from what is now Czechoslovakia. The first Catholic Church was built near Ross Prairie, and later it was moved to Live Oak Hill, now known as Hostyn, above Ellinger. The Fathers from Frelsburg took care of this parish. From the year 1869, many of the faithful traveled to Bluff to attend Mass.

In the year 1870, Bishop Claude Dubuis visited the new settlement and promised them a priest if they would build a church. Without delay a foundation was laid and Father Felix Domkowski was appointed pastor. This church was blessed on June 24, 1872.

Father Joseph Chromcik arrived from Czechoslovakia at Fayetteville in December, 1872, and ministered to his people until his death in 1910. Father J. Koerner succeeded Father Chromcik until 1911. Upon his departure the parish was without a priest.

Father John Vanicek came as pastor in March, 1911, and plans were made for a new church. On the feast of Ss. Peter and Paul, Mass was offered for the last time in the old church, and for the first time in the new church on Thanksgiving Day. In the spring of 1912, Bishop Byrne blessed the new church and administered confirmation to a number of adults. During Father Vanicek's time, many parish organizations were started.

In 1915, the foundation of the new school was blessed. The lumber from the old Warrenton Church was used in the construction of the new school building. Sisters of Divine Providence were in charge of the school, and the opening enrollment was sixty pupils. Plans for a new school at Hostyn were also made.

In 1928 a pipe organ was installed in the church, and a home was bought and remodeled for the sisters, whose quarters had been in the school building. A grotto was also built from petrified wood.

In 1932 a bronze statue was built in honor of Father Joseph Chromcik, the first Czech missionary in Texas.

In 1933, a small chapel with the statue of Our Lady of Sorrows was built. Father Sampson, was at this time assistant to Father Klobouk.

In May, 1936, Father Klobouk was succeeded by Father A. W. Nesvadba. In spite of the depression many improvements were made. In September of that year, the old school building was torn down, and the new one was completed in November. The blessing of the new building took place on November 8, 1936, in conjunction with the Golden Jubilee of the parish school.

On March 1, 1941, Father A. W. Nesvadba was succeeded by Father Frank Dobias. He volunteered his services as chaplain and entered the navy in December, 1943.

Father Frank Urbanowsky served as administrator until 1945, when he was granted permission to return to his work as traveling missionary. Father Frank L. Matustik, the present pastor, who had returned from active duty as Navy chaplain, was appointed pastor.

In September, 1945, two school buses were acquired for the transportation of the children to the parochial school. In June, 1946, additional property for a playground and a new school building was acquired. The parochial school also added the ninth grade, and with this beginning, additional grades will be added until there is a fully accredited four-year Catholic high school.

From the small beginning of two families in 1855, the parish has grown to 280 families.

St. Anthony's

DANBURY

In 1911, Father Montreuil from Bay City, said Mass for the first time for families of Danbury in the home of Thomas Walker. Until 1930, Mass was said at Danbury once a month in a private home. In 1930 the community built a new public school, and a part of the old public school building became the first Catholic Church of Danbury. This church was completely demolished by a hurricane in 1932. The new church was rebuilt the same year. This second church was destroyed by fire in October, 1944.

East Bernard Deanery

Since then a rice warehouse has been used for a church building. On December 6, 1945, the Bishop appointed Father F. J. Dobias the first resident pastor of St. Anthony's Church at Danbury. Prior to this it was a mission of Freeport.

Plans are under way for a new church and rectory.

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St. Anne's

SOMERVILLE

St. Ann's Church at Somerville is served by Father George Elmendorf, chaplain of St. Francis' Hospital, Brenham.

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The Espiritu Santo

FAYETTEVILLE

The *Espiritu Santo* is, in the true sense of the word, a church on wheels. The rear end of the trailer chapel contains an altar, and the front part is the rectory. The twenty by thirty foot tent that covers the rear end of the chapel, together with the smaller inside tent, heated by two oil stoves make it possible to say Mass, and hold other religious services in any kind of weather in every season of the year in reasonable comfort.

It serves exclusively the Latin Americans of the Diocese, scattered in large and small groups in towns and villages, on plantations, ranches, saw-mills, and other out-of-the-way places. Thus, over 100 places are served from one to seven days as often as possible.

Average annual harvest: about forty baptisms, 400 first communions, fifty marriages made valid. Confessions and communions run into thousands annually.

Many fallen-aways are brought back to the practice of their faith. However, the primary mission of The *Espiritu Santo* is not to make converts, but to help thousands of wandering sheep, exposed to so much adverse propaganda, keep their faith.

The chapel was built in June, 1937, by Father Urbanowsky and a few of his friends. Since then, it has been continually in service except for two and one-half years during the war.

Ss. Peter and Paul

FRELSBURG

The history of the parish of Ss. Peter and Paul dates back to 1836. A small log church had been constructed and services were held by a visiting missionary priest, Father J. A. Jacob, until 1847. The parish was established in 1847 under the guidance of Father Jacob. He was succeeded the following year by Father T. Anstaet as pastor.

In February, 1854, Father Victor Gury was appointed to take charge and he remained until April, 1887. Father Gury also filled the office of Vicar-General of the Galveston Diocese, with Father Peter Tarrillian assisting him in his many and various duties. The first seminary of the Galveston Diocese was founded by Father V. Gury in 1854 in Frelsburg.

From May to September, 1887, Father Joseph T. Lauth, C.S.C., was in charge of the parish. From 1887 to 1899 the following priests were in charge for brief terms: Fathers Joseph Dum, August Heuchemer, Carol Preis, J. Chromeik, P. M. Lennartz, V. Chlapick, Christopher Precker, G. Weise. Father George Apel was in charge until 1911 for a period of twelve years.

In March, 1911, Father D. Berberich was placed in charge and was succeeded by Father George Berberich in February, 1916. Father Dombrowski replaced the latter in August of the same year and remained there until 1921. Since there was no resident priest, Father George Duda of Mentz ministered to the faithful from June until November, 1921, when Father Jan Kolas replaced him and served until October, 1922. Father F. X. Pruss was then assigned to be pastor and remained until 1926. For several months Father Joseph Klobouk was in charge. In 1927 Father F. Stindle was appointed pastor. Nine years later, in 1936, the parish was in charge of Father H. T. Schroeder. It is now under the direction of Father Edward Geiser, who has been the pastor since March, 1940.

Eventually the tiny log church was replaced by a frame structure in 1861. This same building was torn down and rebuilt in 1912. In 1926 the church was totally destroyed by fire and the parish suffered a setback. The plans for a new

East Bernard Deanery

church matured, and in 1928 the church was completed.

The first parochial school was built in 1850, and closed in 1921. A new school was completed in 1946 and is being taught by the Sisters of the Incarnate Word of the Blessed Sacrament.

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Immaculate Conception

SEALY

The parish of Sealy, founded in 1885, is located in Austin County. At that time there were only a few distant Catholic parishes in the neighborhood, and only seldom were the people privileged to have Mass said in their midst.

Later the people asked the bishop of Galveston to appoint a priest who would be able to come regularly. Their petition was granted and Sealy was made a mission of the already organized parishes of Frelsburg, Fayetteville and Industry. Until the year 1890, Fathers V. Gury, J. Weimer, C. Preis, C. W. Lennartz, S. Spinnewebner, J. Chromcik and V. Chlapik held services in private homes. Finally in 1890, a small church was built but was completely destroyed by fire in 1898.

The parishioners started building a new church but when the structure was almost completed, a hurricane destroyed it.

The Most Reverend N. A. Gallagher, Bishop of Galveston, himself directed the building of a new church which was finished at the end of 1901 and dedicated to the Immaculate Conception.

Father William Skocek was appointed the first pastor. During his short stay he built the rectory and made other improvements. In 1906, Father Machan became pastor for one year, after which Father William Skocek was once more in charge. In 1912, Father P. F. Nemec, recently ordained, took charge. Under his leadership the parish improved admirably. A new rectory was built and the school opened in September, 1914, with an enrollment of 115 children under the direction of the Sisters of Divine Providence.

In 1915, Father Joseph Hanak succeeded Father Nemec. During his stay the parish made great progress. He served Sealy until 1931. Father Charles Kunc took his place. It was during Father Kunc's time that the new school and sisters' home were built.

In 1936, Father Kunc was succeeded by the present pastor, Father James Kveton. During his pastorate, new stations of the cross, a communion rail and pews were bought. The altars and statues were repainted. Shrubby and trees were planted on the church and school grounds. The parish celebrated a triple jubilee in 1939: Golden Jubilee of the parish, Silver Jubilee of the priesthood of the pastor, and the Silver Jubilee of the school.

At present, plans are being made to remodel and enlarge the school building in the coming year.

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Immaculate Conception

INDUSTRY

The Immaculate Conception Church of Industry was organized in October, 1875. In 1872 Father Joseph Chromcik came to Texas and settled in Fayetteville, from where he went to Industry and said Mass in the homes of farmers. Under his guidance, the members bought three acres of land with a building, which was converted into a church and parsonage. Father Martin Kre was then appointed resident pastor.

From 1878 to 1880, Father Chromcik had charge. Later Fathers Wilhinantz, Nestrat and Preis served as pastors. In 1894 a new church was built and the old church converted into a school.

The size of the parish necessitated a resident pastor, and in 1895, Father William Skocek resided there until 1904. During his residence, a new altar was bought and other improvements carried out. On September 8, 1900, a storm destroyed the church. A new and better church was then built.

In 1904, Father Skocek was succeeded by Father George Apel. Father Demel took charge in 1905 and remained until 1909.

On May 28, 1929, Father E. J. Poleak celebrated his first Solemn High Mass.

From 1931 to 1936, Father Charles Kunc of Sealy served the needs of the parish. Since 1943 Father Edward Geiser of Frelsburg has been celebrating Mass on all Sundays and Holydays.

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East Bernard Deanery

Immaculate Conception

HOSTYN HILL—FAYETTEVILLE

Many Catholic immigrants settled in Fayette County between 1850 and 1860, but their first and only means of hearing Mass was in the various homes occasionally visited by Father Victor Gury from Frelsburg. Later a crude altar was placed in a shed, but with the coming of priests and some degree of prosperity, churches, schools and rectories were built.

Immaculate Conception Church bears the distinction of being the first permanent Catholic church in Fayette County, though it was the second one built. It was erected on Live Oak Hill a few years after the first church, a log hut built on Ross Prairie in May, 1855, proved inadequate.

The property on the hill consisted of thirty-four acres, purchased for \$350, plus the Church's twenty-eight acres of land in the area called Ross Prairie where the original log hut church was built.

The Church remained at Live Oak Hill in the early days of the expanding railroads, though the business houses were moved to the tracks two miles away. The Catholics changed the name of the hill from Live Oak to Hostyn Hill because of its resemblance to Hostyn in Moravia.

The parish's first school was built in 1866, and a house was built in 1872 for the first resident pastor, Rev. John Barlemann, who served until his death in November, 1874.

The present church was built by the parishioners after their persevering attempt to replace the parish buildings which were destroyed first by fire and then by storm in 1906. The school, ravished by another storm in 1924, was replaced with a better two-room structure. A new rectory was built in 1926 during the pastorate of Very Reverend J. Vanicek.

Immaculate Conception Parish, as it now stands on Hostyn Hill, is amidst shady trees, and added to its beauty are the two shrines of the parish. The shrine, St. Mary's of Hostyn, erected in 1928, is an exact image of the fifth station of the cross at St. Hostyn, Moravia, Europe. A shrine of St. Boniface was erected in 1930 by Father Joseph Klobouk. Father A. Gorek

has been resident priest since 1942, and the parish now comprises 102 families.

Twenty-two other priests have served the parish since 1852, either as visiting or resident pastors: Fathers V. Gury, A. Zielinski, P. Kraus, D. Tarillion, J. Bitowski, J. Chromeik, W. Demel, W. Koerner, and J. Vanicek, visiting; J. Barlemann, J. N. Leonard, A. Long, A. Laski, E. J. Riffert, J. L. Adelar, F. Simonik, J. Kofsbue, V. Chlapik, V. Skocek, S. Urbanek, J. Klobouk, and I. Raska, resident.

Guardian Angel's

WALLIS

In the year 1890 a few Czech Catholic families from Fayette County, Bluff (now Hostyn), and Dubina communities, settled about three miles southeast of Wallis station.

A school was built in 1892. Francis V. Smid Company donated four acres of land for the school, church, and a cemetery.

The first Czech priest, the Very Reverend Dean Joseph Chromeik, from Fayetteville, held services occasionally. Fathers N. Laski, Pridal and J. Pruss also visited the new settlement, gave encouragement, and held services.

In 1899, with close to thirty families in the parish, Father William J. Skocek became pastor.

A church was built and dedicated to the Guardian Angels in 1899. This church, however, was completely demolished by a cyclone in May, 1900, and a new church was built in 1904.

A new cemetery location was founded near the church in 1908.

The first resident pastor was Father Francis Machan, appointed in February, 1909. In September, 1909, however, Father Wenceslaus Demel succeeded him. The new church which stands today was built in 1913.

The old church was used as the parochial school. In January, 1914, sixty-four pupils enrolled, and Sisters M. Dominic and M. Timothy of Divine Providence, of San Antonio, took charge.

Father Demel died in March, 1922, and Father Paul F. Nemec succeeded him as pastor.

A two-story, concrete, high school was built in 1924, and in 1932 a modern rectory was built. Father Nemec died and was succeeded by the

East Bernard Deanery

present pastor, Father Aloysius W. Nesvadba in December, 1940. On December 20, 1938, Father Ben Holub, native of Wallis, offered his first Solemn High Mass.

In 1945, remodeling and the addition of a new auditorium was completed.

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Holy Rosary

ROSENBERG

The first record of Catholic history in Rosenberg dates back to the year 1895 when the late Mrs. Anna Dorigan of Eagle Lake donated two lots of ground for a Catholic Church. These lots are located on the site where the present rectory stands.

The first Catholic missionary work was done by Father Jacob Schnetzer, who gathered the people at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Baker for occasional service until 1910 when the people petitioned the Most Reverend N. A. Gallagher, Bishop of Galveston, for a resident pastor. The Bishop appointed Father George Montreuil as the first resident pastor. Through the courtesy of Mr. Gray, a building was used for services until such time as a church could be built.

Holy Rosary Church, a frame structure, was dedicated by Bishop Gallagher in 1912. At the time of the building of the first church, the parish numbered twelve families.

In 1914, Father Montreuil died and Father J. B. O'Leary was sent to the parish temporarily. At this time, the rectory which was situated on the bank of the Brazos River was traded for the home of Mr. W. I. Moody.

In 1917 Father Ignatius Valenta was appointed pastor and through his untiring work and zeal the membership increased from thirty to seventy-five families. In 1922 Father James Kveton was appointed pastor, during whose pastorate a new church was built to replace the old one which was destroyed by fire in 1924. The new church of mission architecture, was built of tile and stucco, and was dedicated in 1925 by the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, D. D. The same year a new rectory was built.

In 1931, Father Kveton obtained two acres of land, about one mile south of town on the Needville highway, for a cemetery.

In 1935, Father Jerome Tydlaacka was appointed pastor. Under his direction a stone grotto was built in 1937 to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the parish. To supplement the work of the Church, a parish school was built in 1941. The school is of brick and tile and of modern architecture. There are five classrooms with a spacious auditorium, library and cafeteria.

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St. Stanislaus'

CHAPEL HILL

Catholics were in Chapel Hill for some years before building their church. For a good while they attended services at Brenham. In 1889, the parish was organized by Father Grabinger of Brenham. Father Laski and Father Prida followed Father Grabinger.

Father Theodore Jaron was the first resident pastor and built the first church. A storm destroyed it in 1900 and the parishioners built a new one.

Father Francis Nona was appointed pastor in 1898. That was his first appointment. The parish numbered 225 families, and 125 children attended the parish school.

Following Father Nona, on September, 1921, came Father Max A. Budnik. Three months later, December 4, the second church was destroyed by fire.

A new church was completed in August, 1922. Father Budnik served this parish for nineteen years and he built the present church.

Father John Wesolek has been pastor since 1939. There are at present about 250 families in the parish, and 158 children attend the school which is taught by four Sisters of Divine Providence. Father Wesolek built the present school in 1940.

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East Bernard Deanery

St. Mary's

BRENHAM

St. Mary's at Brenham may be said to date from November 19, 1870, when B. H. Bassett and his brother, Jefferson Bassett, donated to the newly formed congregation the plot of ground for the church and parish house.

Prior to 1870, Catholics met for Mass at the residence of Thomas Dwyer, located then on the lot where the present city hall stands.

The first resident priest in charge of St. Mary's was Father McSweeney, followed by Father Bernard. Father Grabinger erected a frame church and rectory in 1880. Since then the following priests have served St. Mary's Parish: Fathers V. Wilamowicz, A. Lask, F. Pridal, F. Nona, I. J. Szymanski, Wm. Skocek, F. Machan, M. A. Dombrowski, M. Tabor, L. F. Dykal, and the present pastor, Rev. Charles Weisnerowski.

The gradual increase in the number of Catholic families made it necessary for a more commodious church for worship, which was built by Father F. Pridal, in the year 1896. The small old frame church was converted into a parochial school in 1915, and the Sisters of Divine Providence of San Antonio took charge.

In 1924, Father Charles Weisnerowski was appointed pastor of St. Mary's at Brenham.

A new parochial school building has been constructed; the small frame church and rectory have been replaced with beautiful and modern brick structures; and a conveniently arranged home for the Sisters of Divine Providence has been built.

Four young priests and one Franciscan brother from the parish now serve the church, Fathers S. A. Zientek, Ed Murski, John D. Wesolek, B. M. Skweres, and Brother Valerian Kloginski, Franciscan.

Sixteen young ladies from St. Mary's entered Our Lady of the Lake Convent in San Antonio.

There are at present four young men studying for the priesthood, two at La Porte, and two at St. John's Seminary in San Antonio.

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Sacred Heart

RICHMOND

In 1934 the Catholic people of Richmond, Fort Bend County, decided that they should have a place for holding Divine Services.

Father James J. Kirwin Reybaud was appointed by the Most Reverend Bishop to organize the new parish late in 1934. The church was built and dedicated to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. The cornerstone was laid in March, 1935, and the first Mass was offered in the church on Easter Sunday, 1935.

Some time later, a spacious rectory was built. After two years in the Sacred Heart Parish, Father Reybaud was transferred and was succeeded by Father Thomas F. Ryan. After seven months he was succeeded by the Rev. Michael Murray.

During the two years Father Murray spent in Richmond he did much to reduce the debt. In June, 1939, the present pastor, Father A. J. Nicholson, was sent to Richmond, and with the help of some generous friends, all debts contracted by the parish were paid off.

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St. Mary's

HEMPSTEAD

As far as can be learned, the first priests to attend to the Catholic people of Hempstead came just as the Civil War was beginning. Visits were few and far between in the war years, but afterwards increased in frequency.

The first church was built in 1879, and a cemetery was established. The present church was built at the turn of the century.

Real work among the Catholics began with the establishment of the parish of Plantersville, in the early 1890's by Father Klein. He attended Hempstead as well as a number of other small towns in this vicinity. There were few Catholics, but they worked at their faith. A Sunday School was started in 1893 through the efforts of Miss Edith Young and Miss Maggie Nahm.

In 1924, Hempstead was attached to the parish at Chapel Hill and was ministered to by Father Max Budnik for almost seven years.

Liberty Deanery



*Immaculate Conception
Liberty*



Monsignor Kirwin

HOSPITALS
OTHER WORKS
OF MERCY
&
EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS

Kirwin High School, Galveston



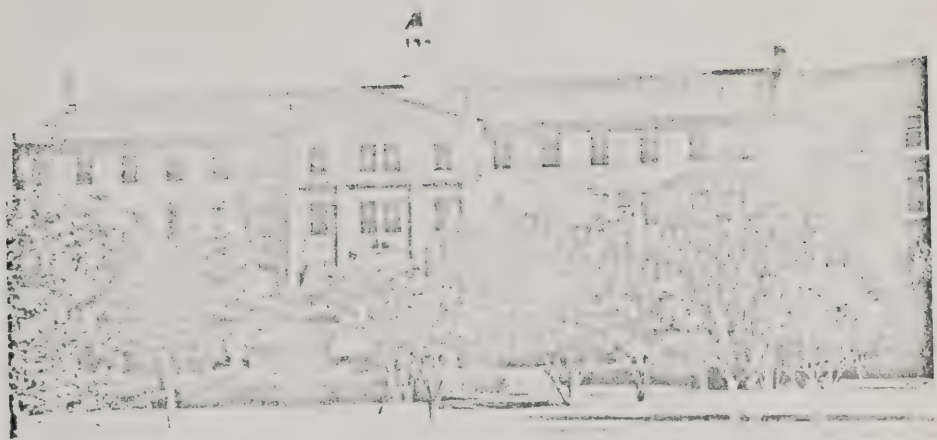
St. Mary's Infirmary Convent
St. Mary's Infirmary

St. Mary's Orphanage
Ursuline Academy

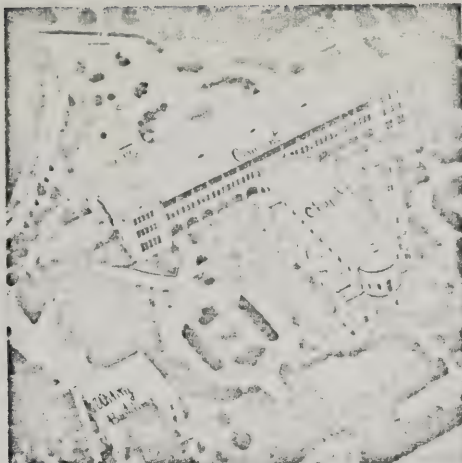
Sacred Heart Academy
Galveston



*Incarnate Word Convent
Incarnate Word Academy
Houston*



Sacred Heart Convent
Dominican Novitiate
Houston
St. Agnes Academy
Houston



Villa de Matel

St. Joseph's School of Nursing

St. Joseph's Maternity & Children's Building

St. Joseph's Infirmary Convent

St. Joseph's Infirmary



*St. Thomas High School
The Catholic University
Houston*



*Catholic Women's Club
San Jose Clinic
Convent of the Good Shepherd
Houston*

East Bernard Deanery

The parish was created in February, 1930, with Father Michael O'Regan as first pastor, and with Navasota, Waller and Brookshire as missions. Father O'Regan was succeeded by Father Anthony Nicholson, who served from December, 1930, to July, 1939, when the present pastor Father Herman Vincent was appointed.

The growth of the parish has been due largely to the influx of Polish people from surrounding parishes such as Brenham, Chapel Hill, and Anderson. These people make up approximately ninety per cent of the congregation at Hempstead.

Waller: This mission began with the settlement of a few Bohemian farmers on the prairie in the southeastern part of the county. Though their number was small, they built a church and began to look around for a priest to minister to them. This was nearly half a century ago. The church is still standing and is filled with the descendants of those pioneer families.

Navasota: It is difficult to trace the beginnings of Catholicity in this mission. As far back as the 1870's, when priests were stationed at Millican, there were Catholics around Navasota. In 1896 when Father Klein was stationed at Plantersville, he organized the mission, building the church that is still in use. Navasota remained a mission of Plantersville until 1930, when it was attached to Hempstead. Funds are on hand and plans have been drawn for a new church to replace the present inadequate structure.

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Holy Family

WHARTON

On the second Sunday of July, 1928, Father George Duda, pastor of Holy Cross Church, Bay City, assembled the Catholics of Wharton in the old Wharton County Courthouse for the humble beginning of what was to be known in later years as the Holy Family Parish.

During the next year Mass was celebrated monthly in the old city hall while the present church was under construction.

On May 25, 1930, the Holy Family Church was dedicated by His Excellency, Bishop C. E. Byrne. One month later the parish of the Holy Family was established as a mission of the Holy Cross Parish of Bay City.

Erected as an independent parish in 1932, the first resident pastor was Father George Duda.

Father John Campbell succeeded the late Father Michael Hurley as pastor in 1946.

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HUNGERFORD

The Church of St. John the Baptist was established in 1917 as a mission to Holy Rosary Church, Rosenberg. In 1932 it became a mission of Holy Family Church, Wharton.

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St. Roche

MENTZ

The parish of St. Roche of Mentz community is located in the western part of the Diocese. As early as 1850 the Very Reverend Victor Gury and Father Charles Tarrillion came through the woods on horseback from Frelsburg to tend to the spiritual needs of the settlers of Mentz.

Holy Mass was first said in private homes, but the people, ever mindful of their spiritual needs, built a small church which was completed in 1858. This little community grew so rapidly that in 1867 plans were under way to build a larger church.

The new church was built mostly by the people themselves who gave of their spare time and hauled stone on wagons drawn by oxen. With the completion of the stone church in 1871 the parish received its first resident pastor, Father John Neimer.

In 1872 the parish school was organized under the direction of two sisters. The parish prospered until the stone church was destroyed by fire in 1940.

The present church was built under the leadership of Father Francis Klass, who entered the service as chaplain, and was succeeded on January 10, 1942, by Father Andrew Didner, the present pastor.

East Bernard Deanery

St. Theresa's

SUGARLAND

St. Theresa Church was built in 1925 by Father Hugh Finnegan, O.M.I., who attended the church from the Immaculate Conception Church, Houston, as a mission until 1927 when he was succeeded by Father Joseph Dwan, O.M.I.

The records of St. Theresa's Parish date back to 1918, and during the years before the building of the church, Mass was said in the Baptist Church building in Sugarland.

St. Theresa's became a parish church in 1935 and Father James Cassidy, O.M.I., became the first pastor. The church was enlarged and the rectory built in 1940, with Father Lawrence Fererro, O.M.I., pastor. The property on which the church and rectory stands was donated to the church by the Imperial Sugar Company, and the church and rectory were financed by the people of the parish; the debt was paid off in 1942 under Father F. Gagnon, O.M.I. Out of 210 families who belong to the parish, 150 are Mexican families.

Father Edward J. Murray, O.M.I., has been pastor since March, 1945.

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St. Francis of Assisi

GIDDINGS

In the year 1932, the Rev. Sebastian Rubi, T.O.R., came to Giddings once a month to say Mass for the Latin American people.

From 1933 to 1939 the Rev. F. D. Urbanowsky of Fayetteville said Mass once a month. Then in 1939 and 1940 he came three times a year with his trailer chapel, the *Espiritu Santo*, giving the people a three-day mission at each visit.

From 1940 to 1943 the Rev. L. A. LeBlanc, chaplain of St. Francis' Hospital at Brenham, came once a month to attend the needs of the parish.

The Rev. George Elmendorf took Father LeBlanc's place in 1943, and in May, 1944, Father LeBlanc was appointed pastor of Giddings and given Pin Oak for a mission. Pin Oak is one of the oldest Catholic communities in Texas. Their first church was built over 100 years ago. About fifteen years ago Pin Oak became a mission of La Grange.

Present pastor is Father Henry O. Gottschalk, who was appointed in 1945.

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ST. MARY'S, AUSTIN
Granger Deanery

ST. JOHN'S, FAYETTEVILLE
East Bernard Deanery

Granger Deanery

Ss. Cyril and Methodius

GRANGER

The first Catholic Church in Granger was built in 1891, and dedicated to the Slavic Apostles, Ss. Cyril and Methodius. The location for the church was donated by W. H. Walton of Austin.

Services were conducted in the newly organized parish in Granger by Father James Lauth, C.S.C., who was then pastor at Taylor. The parish was entirely a Czech parish.

The new parish grew rapidly, and Father Francis Pridal was appointed first resident pastor in October, 1893. In June, 1894, he moved into the new rectory which he had completed.

In May, 1895, Bishop N. A. Gallagher appointed Father M. M. Crowe pastor. Father Machan succeeded him on August 4, 1895.

The first parish school was built in 1899, and the teaching staff was composed of Father Machan and Miss M. Bartosh, and later, Misses Sykora and Kleine. In November, 1901, the teaching was taken over by the Sisters of Divine Providence from San Antonio. At this time, also, a new rectory was built, and the sisters made their home in the old rectory.

In the year 1902, Father Pridal was again appointed pastor in Granger.

A new school was built in 1912, which served until the present time. A new two-story brick building is now under construction.

In the spring of 1916, construction was begun on a new church which was blessed on April 24, 1917, by Bishop N. A. Gallagher.

After the death of Father Pridal in 1926, Father Fabian Stindle became pastor and remained until April of that year when he was succeeded by Father John Vanicek, the present pastor. Monsignor Vanicek built the new rectory. During a short leave of absence because of ill health, his place was filled by Father Elias A. Holub. Father Jerome Vitek was appointed assistant in 1942, and in June, 1945, Father George Tydlacka replaced him.

Today the parish is composed of over 300 families. Included in its territorial extent are the towns of Bartlett, Holland and San Gabriel.

Monsignor Vanicek became Dean in 1942, and on December 16, 1943, was honored by Pope Pius XII as a Papal Chamberlain.

In 1947 a new school was completed under the supervision of Monsignor Vanicek.

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St. Mary's

(St. Patrick's Parish 1852-1866)

AUSTIN

The first priests to attend the needs of the Catholics of Austin were missionaries from Bastrop. Early in 1853, Father Michael Sheehan took up his residence in Austin and began the erection of a church.

In 1855 the new church was completed and named St. Patrick's. In November, 1857, Father G. Machan succeeded Father Sheehan as pastor of St. Patrick's until April 3, 1861, when Father Michael Prendergast became pastor.

In February, 1864, Father Nicholas Felten succeeded him. In 1866 he changed the name of the church to St. Mary's of the Immaculate Conception. That same year a tower was added to the old church.

On May 4, 1874, the parish was placed under the guidance of the Holy Cross Fathers, with Father Daniel J. Spillard, C.S.C., as pastor. Shortly after his arrival, he began laying the foundation of the present church. He remained as pastor until 1882 when he was succeeded by Father Peter Lauth, C.S.C.

Father Spillard had begun the construction of the new church and Father Lauth hastened its completion. On April 20, 1884, the new St. Mary's Church was dedicated by the Right Reverend N. A. Gallagher.

About 1883 the Holy Cross Sisters built an academy on the site that formerly served as the residence of the President of Texas. The Academy was ready for occupancy in September, 1885. The girls of the parochial school were transferred to the new Academy, and the Brothers of Holy Cross took over the direction of the boys in the parochial school.

Father Peter, as he was called by the people of Austin, continued as pastor until 1898. He

Granger Deanery

was succeeded by Father James Rogers, C.S.C., who served for two years. In 1900 Father John O'Keefe, C.S.C., was appointed pastor and served for fifteen years. Under his direction the decoration of the church took place. In 1906, Father William J. Marr, C.S.C., was appointed assistant pastor. He became pastor in 1915 but served only three months until his death.

Father Timothy R. Murphy, C.S.C., was appointed pastor in 1916, and in 1917 was succeeded by Father Thomas Hennessy, C.S.C., who continued in that capacity until 1921.

In 1918 a change was made in the teaching staff and among the pupils of St. Mary's School. The Brothers of Holy Cross who had taught only boys, were transferred to St. Edward's College and the teaching duties of the parochial school were entrusted to the care of the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

During the pastorate of Father Hennessy the old church property was sold and plans were drawn up for a new rectory which was completed during the pastorate of Father Walter Laven, C.S.C., 1921 to 1922.

In 1922, Father Michael A. Quinlan, C.S.C., was appointed pastor and served until 1928 when he was succeeded by Father J. J. O'Rourke, C.S.C. Father William P. Lennartz, C.S.C., was appointed pastor in 1931, and in 1933 was followed by Father James H. Gallagan, C.S.C. In July, 1937, Father James J. O'Brien, C.S.C., vice-president of St. Edward's University and already well known in Austin, was assigned as pastor of St. Mary's Church. On September 15, 1940, the new school was dedicated by His Excellency, Bishop Byrne.

Father Joseph P. McAllister, C.S.C., has been pastor of St. Mary's since September 2, 1943.

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St. Mary's

TAYLOR

St. Mary's Parish in Taylor dates back to 1870 when the first pioneers came to settle in what was then known as Taylorville. Father D. J. Spillard, C.S.C., of Austin, who offered Holy Mass in Taylor once a month, suggested the build-

ing of the first church in Taylor, about 1877. This little church was first used during the time of Father James Lauth, C.S.C., also of Austin.

The first resident pastor of St. Mary's, Father John Lauth, C.S.C., brother of Father James Lauth, came in 1888. He labored for six years organizing the parish and purchasing additional property. Father Marion Toohey, C.S.C., was St. Mary's second resident pastor, coming to the parish in 1884.

The next resident priest was Father James Lauth, C.S.C. With the ever increasing number of parishioners, the little wooden church was entirely too small, and in 1894, Father M. M. Crowe, then pastor, made plans for a larger church. The first parochial school became a reality, with the Dominican Sisters as teachers.

To Father J. S. Murphy, who arrived to serve as pastor in 1897, fell the burden of completing the church, which had few pews and only ordinary windows.

In 1905 Father Murphy was replaced by Father Peter Bienemann, during whose presence the two-story rectory was built. The parochial school had outgrown the little wooden church building and Father Murphy set about to build a new one. As a result, the present parish hall was built.

Father Theo Drees became pastor of St. Mary's in 1910 and during his thirty years as pastor, the two-story St. Agnes Convent was built. In 1932, when the parochial school had outgrown the building at the rear of the church, the present two-story edifice was built across the street from the church.

St. Mary's vocations to the priesthood included two from one family, Fathers E. A. Holub, Jerome Tydlacka and his brother, George Tydlacka.

Father Stephen P. Brown is pastor of St. Mary's at this time, and Father James J. Polansky is his assistant.

The church which has grown from the small edifice of the 1870's to the present brick structure, has also grown from the handful of Catholics of those days to the present 400 families.

Granger Deanery

St. Mary's

TEMPLE

The first Mass for the parish of St. Mary, Temple, was celebrated by the Rev. John Lauth, C.S.C., of Taylor, on the second Sunday of April, 1883, in Mr. Thomas Sutton's home. The second Mass was celebrated on the following Monday in Mr. Henehan's residence. The third Mass was celebrated in the Gulf House, a hotel close to the Santa Fe Depot.

In September of the same year, 1883, arrangements were made to have Mass celebrated on a regular Sunday, once a month, in McCelvey and Worthman Hall. Father Lauth was succeeded by Reverend Father Malloy, C.S.C.; Rev. P. Francisus; Father P. J. Hurth, C.S.C.; Reverend Father Moore; Father Swift; and Father Lennartz.

Father Lennartz arrived February 10, 1886, and continued to serve the Temple Church until October, 1892. He was succeeded by the Rev. P. A. Heckman, who built the first church and rectory in 1896.

The first parochial school was established in 1919 by Rev. B. C. Pfiffner with an enrollment of forty-two pupils. The Rev. M. J. Murray and the Rev. L. Sampson served, respectively, as successors to Father Pfiffner. In 1924, the Rev. P. J. O'Reilly was assigned as pastor to St. Mary's Catholic Church and has remained in this status until the present time.

The old property was sold in 1928, and a new block of ground was purchased. Four new buildings were erected. The priest's home, sisters' home, and the school were built in 1928; the church was completed in 1929.

At the beginning, St. Mary's Parish was small in number; however, at present it embraces 150 families, and there are eighty-three children enrolled in the parochial school.

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St. Helen's

GEORGETOWN

The early history of St. Helen's Church is rather obscure. The Oblate Fathers of Austin, especially Father Jose Prieto, O.M.I., occasionally came to Georgetown to say Mass in the homes of the Mexicans.

It was in the middle twenties that a group of Mexicans petitioned Father Patrick O'Reilly, C.S.C., to come regularly to say Mass for them.

When Father O'Reilly received the petition of the Mexicans he volunteered his service to Bishop Byrne, asking permission to work and establish a mission at Georgetown. The Catholic Church Extension Society gave a substantial donation with the stipulation that the church be called St. Helen's. On May 3, 1931, Bishop Byrne blessed and dedicated St. Helen's Church.

Father O'Reilly came from Austin each Sunday to say Mass, and when ill health prevented him, Father Walter O'Donnell took charge.

In 1934 Father Frank Drummey became the first resident priest at St. Helen's. He lived in a small room attached to the sacristy.

One month after Father Drummey's death, Father Thomas Culhane was sent to Texas to take his place.

It was not until 1937 that Father Culhane together with Father Fred Schmidt, C.S.C., his assistant, took up residence in Georgetown.

Father MacDonald, pastor of Alice and Bertram, died this same year, and these two charges were made missions of Georgetown. St. Rose's Church was also dedicated in 1937.

In 1940 the Bishop transferred the missions of Round Rock and McNeil to the Georgetown Church. In 1940 Father Culhane was succeeded by Father Joseph Houser, C.S.C., and the expansion of the missions continued under his pastorate.

In 1945 Father Culhane returned to Georgetown and Father Elmer Rupp, C.S.C., was assigned as his assistant.

In 1946 Father Thomas Curran, C.S.C., replaced Father Rupp.

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Granger Deanery

Holy Trinity

JARRELL (CORN HILL)

It was about the year 1886 that Father Jacob Lauth, C.S.C., pastor of Taylor, visited the settlement of Corn Hill, and held Divine Services in a private home. From then on, he continued these interval visits and said Holy Mass.

In 1887, a small chapel was built on the sloping hill, the highest location for miles around. A few months after the chapel was built, Father Lauth ordered a crucifixion group that was to enhance the homemade altar; but when it arrived it was discovered that the Cross was higher than the chapel itself.

In 1890, a church with a high steeple was built. Father Joseph Chromeik of Fayetteville blessed it, as well as the Stations of the Cross and two large bells.

From 1892 to 1897, Fathers Gabriel Sebik and Joseph Pelnar from West attended to the spiritual needs of the people. In 1898, Father Francis Pridal was appointed pastor of Granger with Corn Hill as a mission, and after six months he was succeeded by Father Francis Machan. In 1900, Father Machan started the first parochial school with Father Slesinger as teacher. While the future parishioners were being educated in this school, another school was being built on the hill near the church. This three-room school (one room was used as a priest house) was blessed in 1901. That same year, a four-room sisters' home was built. Two Sisters of Divine Providence of San Antonio came the following year.

In 1902, Father Francis Pridal succeeded Father Machan again, and Corn Hill remained a mission until 1912, when Father William Skocek was appointed first resident pastor. A two-story, eight-room rectory was built in 1911. A new church with twin spires 100 feet high was built in 1913, and dedicated by Bishop Gallagher in 1914.

On August 28, 1922, Father Ignatius J. Valenta was appointed pastor, and is to this day. A four-room school with parish hall above, and a new convent were built in 1925. In 1939 a brick veneer rectory was constructed.

Five priests have come from this parish: Right Reverend Monsignor Joseph A. Valenta, Fathers Paul F. Nemece, I. J. Valenta, T. J. Valenta, and Alois Pavelka. Four girls have entered the Incarnate Word Convent.

St. Austin's

AUSTIN

The Paulist Fathers arrived in Austin in 1908. A chapel with a lecture hall above was built on a site adjoining the University of Texas. This chapel, familiarly known as St. Austin's, was dedicated to St. Augustine of Canterbury and serves both the students and parishioners within the vicinity of the University.

A parochial school, known as Newman School, was established in 1917 for the children of the parish and placed in charge of the Dominican Sisters.

Due to the increase of students at the University, a new parish church and student chapel will be built soon. Plans are also under way for a new parochial school and rectory.

Father A. J. Burggraff, C.S.P., is the present pastor.

Holy Cross

AUSTIN

In 1935 a group of white ladies brought the Catholic Church to the attention of the colored people of Austin. Local pastors collected money to establish a place for priests to work among the Negroes.

Father Francis R. Weber, C.S.C., was appointed pastor in January, 1936, of Holy Cross Parish which was established when a large room was rented in which to hold services.

The original flock of two grew to about a dozen within several months; so Father Weber tried to get a permanent site for a mission.

In August, 1936, the site was decided upon, and a temporary church was established in the front room of an old house on the property which served until the little church was erected in 1937.

Holy Cross School was established in 1939.

Granger Deanery

Our Lady of Guadalupe

TAYLOR

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, situated on the corner of Pine and Sturgis Streets in Taylor, is especially dedicated to the Spanish-speaking people of the city, and to both the English and Spanish-speaking people of the missions attached to it. In addition to the parish church, the following chapels are attended from here: Manor, Pflugerville, Bastrop, Elgin and Rockdale. This parish is in charge of the Oblate Fathers, the present pastor being Francis F. Decker, O.M.I., assisted by Father Paul A. Lewis, O.M.I. For many years this parish was served from different places and by various priests.

Starting about the year 1872, pioneer work in Taylor was done by Father Jacob Lauth, C.S.C., then residing at St. Mary's in Austin. However, the first concentrated work to be done among the Spanish-speaking people of Taylor was begun by Father Jose Siso, assistant of St. Mary's Parish, Taylor. He built the first church in 1914 and gave continuous service, but resided at St. Mary's until 1918 when he bought the rectory.

After his death in 1920, the work was taken over by the Oblate Fathers from Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Houston. Father E. De Anta, O.M.I., assisted by Father C. Zepfchen, O.M.I., worked until 1925. In that year, this mission was transferred to Guadalupe Parish in Austin, under whose care it remained until it became an independent parish in 1938. Father Jesus Prieto, O.M.I., bought several lots adjoining the church in 1926, upon which were situated three small houses. Fathers G. Mongeau, O.M.I., and T. Cuevas, O.M.I., worked from 1926 to 1931, when Father Jose A. Prieto, O.M.I., took over. During the year and a half that he worked there, he enlarged the original church to its present size. Father L. Ferrero, O.M.I., took over the work in this territory in 1934, and built the parish hall in 1937.

In January, 1938, Father Ferrero became the first pastor of Guadalupe Parish in Taylor. He was succeeded by Father A. Santos, O.M.I., in 1938. Father Santos remained at his post for about a year, and was then succeeded by Father E. Bastien, O.M.I., who labored for seven years.

During his pastorate several small buildings were erected. A grotto to Our Lady of Guadalupe was built on the church grounds, and the church was repainted. Father Bastien was succeeded in May, 1946, by the present pastor, Father Francis Decker.

The Catechist Sisters of St. John Bosco, a society dedicated entirely to the catechizing of children, and closely related works, arrived in October, 1946. They work both in the parish church and in the missions, and are giving regular instructions to over 300 children.

ROCKDALE

Early pioneer work was begun in Rockdale by Fathers Strelsky and Wolf, who were succeeded by Fathers John and Jacob Lauth, C.S.C. The former worked there for about ten years, building the first church in 1880, dedicated to St. Joseph. In 1887 Father Jacob took over this work, and continued until 1893. He was succeeded by Father Gleisner, who worked from Hearne. Later Rockdale became a mission of Cameron. The original church was torn down and rebuilt in 1912, being blessed on the feast of its patron, March 19, 1912. Fathers Spinneweber, Apel, and Duda took care of this mission while it belonged to Cameron. From the years 1911 to 1924 services were given regularly for the Spanish-speaking people of Rockdale by the Oblate Fathers from Houston, principally by Father E. De Anta, O.M.I. In 1940 Rockdale was transferred to the parish of Guadalupe, Taylor.

BASTROP

Sacred Heart Church in Bastrop was pioneered by Fathers N. Fellin and Jacob Lauth, C.S.C., working out of St. Mary's Taylor. These two zealous missionaries had charge of Bastrop from 1864 to 1892. The first church was built there about 1864, and was torn down and rebuilt in its present form in 1898 by Father Lennartz of La Grange. The priests from La Grange had charge of Bastrop as a mission from 1893 to 1924. In 1925 it became a mission of Guadalupe Parish in Austin, and was subsequently changed to Guadalupe Parish in Taylor, in 1938, from which place it is attended at present.

Granger Deanery

ELGIN

The mission of Elgin received services from Fathers Mariano Mojado and Jose Sauz, C.M.F., from Austin, during the years 1908 to 1911. During these first years, the church was built, and dedicated to the Sacred Heart. In the early part of 1912, the Oblate Fathers from Houston took charge of Elgin, and it was served from there until 1925 by Father E. De Anta, O.M.I., and in the later years by Father C. Zoepfchen, O.M.I. In 1924 Father De Anta enlarged the body of the church, and built a sacristy. In 1925 Elgin became a part of Guadalupe Parish in Austin, also under the care of the Oblate Fathers, and was transferred to Guadalupe, Taylor, in 1938.

MANOR

Father Jacob Lauth did missionary work in Manor, starting in the year 1876. Like Elgin, Manor was served by Fathers Mariano Mojado and Jose Sauz from 1908 to 1911, and then was attended by Father E. De Anta, O.M.I., from Houston, until 1925. In 1916 Father De Anta built the first church there, only to have it destroyed by a storm almost immediately after the blessing; consequently the following year he built another church, which still is in use. The Oblate Fathers from Austin cared for Manor from 1925 to 1938, when it became one of the missions of the newly-founded parish in Taylor.

PFLUGERVILLE

St. Elizabeth's Church in Pflugerville was built in 1932 under the direction of Father Jose A. Prieto, O.M.I., through a donation obtained by the Extension Society. Prior to that time Mass was offered occasionally in an empty hall in the town. This mission was served from Austin by the Oblate Fathers until 1938, when it was attached to this parish. In the present year repairs have been made, the church painted, and the altar remodeled through the efforts of Father G. Green, O.M.I.

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Our Lady of Guadalupe

TEMPLE

Since 1924 the Church of St. Mary had been used for the Mexicans, but the increase of the Catholic population in Temple made it necessary

to provide a church for the Mexican Catholics.

In 1934 the ground was purchased and the following year the church was built. The mission style church was designed by Father Domenge.

The Mexican population of Temple is about 500 in the city and several more families in Pendleton and other small neighboring towns.

* * * *

Our Lady of Guadalupe

AUSTIN

The Mexican people of Austin attended St. Mary's Church until 1907 when Our Lady of Guadalupe Church was built.

Father O'Reilly, C.S.C., the original founder of the work among the Mexicans in Austin, and Father McDonald, C.S.C., pastor of our Lady of Guadalupe, and the sisters made great sacrifices that the work might prosper. St. Edwards' University, Sisters of Seton Infirmary, Sisters of Newman Hall and St. Mary's Academy gave great support to this work.

Father McDonald, C.S.C., was in charge of the parish until January 1, 1925, when the Oblates of Mary Immaculate took charge. Father J. Prieto was the first pastor and immediately he made plans to change the location to the corner of 9th and Lydia Streets. His successor, Father F. Balzola, O.M.I., made the change with the Bishop's approval. The old church and school on Guadalupe Street were demolished and the lumber used to build a new church. A large building on the property was remodeled and used for a school, which is in charge of the Holy Cross Sisters. The Church was blessed on September 5, 1926.

In 1940 a chapel dedicated to Christ the King was built to take care of the people living in a part of the parish.

The Catholic Home Mission Guild helped in obtaining this property. In 1946 this chapel was enlarged and redecorated.

Other Oblate pastors of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church have been Fathers G. Mongeau, J. Dwan, F. Guennegues, A. Prieto, J. Arritibel and the present pastor is Father T. Cuevas, O.M.I.

Liberty Deanery

Immaculate Conception

LIBERTY

In 1756 a mission which was called Nuestra Senora de la Luz was built by the Spaniards on the Trinity River near Liberty. This early settlement gives Liberty the right to claim that it is the third oldest town in Texas.

A temporary church was constructed by the Spanish missionaries. About two years later the original building was replaced by a church which was made of wood and clay. The mission was abandoned about 1770, after thriving for fourteen years.

In 1831 Father Muldoon was pastor and vicar of all the foreign colonies of Texas; by this time the settlement was called Liberty. Father Muldoon had to make the rounds of the different settlements to perform the church rites.

About 1831 the Mexican government laid out the town of Liberty and set aside certain squares which could be used only for designated purposes. One of these was the church square. It is not known when the first building was erected on this spot, but there were at least two other buildings before the present church was erected.

In later years the people at Liberty were attended by the Josephite Fathers, Oblates, and members of the staff at St. Mary's Seminary, La Porte. In 1936 the present church was built by Mr. Earnest Pickett as a memorial to his brother.

Father Michael Hurley was appointed first resident pastor in 1930 and during his tenure the rectory was built.

Father George Black, the present pastor and Dean of the district, succeeded Father Hurley in 1941.

* * * *

Our Mother of Mercy

LIBERTY

The confines of Our Mother of Mercy Parish for Negroes in Ames, Liberty County, and its missions covers an area of approximately 1000 square miles.

Before a resident pastor came to Ames, the people were cared for by several priests among them were Fathers M. J. Crowe; B.C. Pfiffner; Charles O'Rielly, S.S.J.; John J. Albert, S.S.J.; and N. P. Denis, S.S.J.

Father Michael Gumbelton, S.S.J., was assigned as the first resident pastor in August, 1910, and served until 1919. It was his zealous and able ministry that laid the foundation for one of the most flourishing Negro parishes in the Diocese.

His successors were some of the most successful missionaries among the Josephites: Fathers John McKeever, A. J. Fitzpatrick, W. J. Riechmyer, Edward V. Casserly (the present Superior General), Edward Glancy, and M. J. McCormack.

In 1935 a mission church was built for the people in the vicinity of Raywood. In 1939 St. Joseph's Mission Church was dedicated to care for the people in the area of Dayton. The present pastor is Father John Doyle and the assistant is Father F. L. Whearty.

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EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS HOSPITALS

and Other Works of Mercy

The Catholic University

HOUSTON

Impelled by a holy zeal for souls and acting on a profound conviction that the Catholic educational program of his Diocese was incomplete so long as no provision was made for university education under Catholic auspices, His Excellency, the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, repeatedly across the years of his episcopate, has urged upon the Basilian Fathers the proposal of founding in the city of Houston an institution of higher learning.

It was under the inspired leadership of His Excellency and encouraged by the generous support of the laity and the ever increasing need on the part of our Catholic youth that the Basilian Fathers agreed to undertake this difficult but most important work.

In May, 1945, His Excellency announced the opening of university courses in September, 1947.

In March, 1946, through the kind offices of a distinguished Catholic layman, His Holiness, Pope Pius XII graciously conferred his Pontifical Benediction on "a Catholic University to be founded in the city of Houston and upon the Congregation of St. Basil to whom this work has been entrusted and upon all our citizens, who, whether as students or as benefactors, contribute to the realization of this undertaking."

On the Feast of Christ the King, October 27, 1946, the former T. P. Lee home, the temporary quarters of the new University, was solemnly blessed and dedicated by His Excellency, Bishop Byrne to the service of God and the salvation of souls through the medium of a truly Christian education. In this system "every science taught will be tinged with Religion" and in all respects harmonious with the Christian ideals and principles of the Catholic home and the Catholic Church.

Invoking the memory of that courageous pioneer Basilian, Father Nicholas Roche, who as early as 1900 envisaged some such future development when he named his one-room school, St. Thomas College, the Basilian Fathers of 1947, on the occasion of the Centennial of the Diocese of Galveston, offer this addition to their institutions as a pledge of their loyalty, obedience and affection to the Diocese and to its illustrious and beloved Bishop, the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, under whom it has been their privilege to serve through so many years.

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St. Thomas High School

The Basilian Fathers reached Houston forty-seven years ago, in September, 1900. Father Nicholas Roche, the leader of the Basilian Lone Star Vanguard of three, opened the doors of St. Thomas that year. Since that time these doors have not been closed to Houston's Catholic boys.

Father Roche purchased the Austin Street property and directed the erection of the building which furnished Catholic training for thirty-nine years.

The growth of Houston in size and importance demanded an expansion of St. Thomas' educational facilities, and to provide these, Father T. P. O'Rourke acquired the Memorial Drive site upon which Father A. L. Higgins directed the building of the beautiful and more spacious high school. Today St. Thomas' staff of twenty-eight is training 652 men of tomorrow in goodness, discipline and knowledge.

Father V. J. Burke, became principal in 1943 and was succeeded in 1946 by Father V. J. Guinan, who is Superior of the Basilian Fathers of St. Thomas. Father J. W. Embser is Principal of the high school.

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The Work of the Sisters of St. Francis In the Galveston Diocese

The Sisters of St. Francis, characteristic of the followers of St. Francis, extended their zeal to Texas, and came from their motherhouse in Sylvania, Ohio, in 1930. They are now conducting four institutions in the Galveston Diocese: three hospitals and one Catechetical Center and Retreat House.

BRENNHAM HOSPITAL

Their first undertaking was in April, 1931, when they formally took charge of the Brenham Hospital at the request of Dr. W. F. Hasskarl, F.I.C.S., who made an appeal for them five months previously through Father Charles Weisnerowski, pastor of St. Mary's Church.

Taken on a lease basis at first, the property was later bought by the sisters, who remodeled the existing building and added several improvements. The hospital with a bed capacity of twenty-five, all on one floor, has all modern conveniences. Equipped with a first-class X-ray and laboratory operated by Dr. R. A. Hasskarl, it has a major and minor operating room and a complete maternity section. The Brenham Hospital's name was changed to St. Francis' Hospital, and is now staffed by five sisters.

BRYAN HOSPITAL

Four years later, the sisters acquired the Bryan Hospital in similar manner when Drs. R. B. Ehlinger and Grant made an appeal for a community of sisters to take over the small hospital there. This project too was on a lease basis at first, but the sisters purchased it in 1936 and named it St. Joseph's Hospital. It also has

a twenty-five-bed capacity, is equipped with an X-ray and laboratory, an operating room, and a complete maternity section. Staffed by six sisters, the hospital is so small for the demand placed on it, that plans are in process for future expansion.

LIBERTY HOSPITAL

The Sylvania Sisters accepted Mercy Hospital in Liberty in 1935, a few months after they had taken over the hospital in Bryan. This twelve-bed hospital was a gift from the owners, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Chambers of Liberty. During the first seven years, the sisters made improvements and additions, and by 1942, Mercy Hospital became modern and fully equipped. At present, it is staffed by ten sisters, and the twelve-bed capacity has been increased to seventy.

RETREAT HOUSE AND CATECHETICAL CENTER

The community built the Little Flower Haven in Brenham in 1941 to provide a retreat house for the St. Francis Sisters in Texas and a place of rest for the sick sisters. But when they entered more fully into missionary work, they converted the institution into a Catechetical Center in October, 1946, no longer using it as a place for sick sisters.

The name, therefore, was changed to Our Lady of Peace Missionary Center and Retreat House. Two sisters are in charge of organizing and teaching catechism classes to children in the vicinity where there are no Catholic Schools.

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St. Mary's Seminary

LA PORTE

The Church has always made it a salient feature of her policy to establish a priesthood for the people and of the people whenever and wherever possible. The Most Reverend N. A. Gallagher, realizing that a seminary in the midst of the people would be a constant reminder that some are called to the priesthood and thus tend to stimulate vocations, purchased the property known as the Sylvan Beach Hotel, and several adjoining acres of land at La Porte, Harris County, in the early fall of 1901. In October of the same year St. Mary's Seminary, under the direction of the Fathers of St. Basil, began classes with a nucleus of about a dozen students. The domestic department was placed in the charge of the Sisters of St. Dominic from Sacred Heart Convent, Galveston.

On the occasion of his *ad limina* visit June 20, 1902, the Most Reverend Bishop Gallagher requested the late Pope Leo XIII to bestow a special blessing on St. Mary's. His Holiness graciously consented and conferred the blessing in these beautiful words: *Benedictionem specialem pro Seminario tuo tibi dono, ut prosperet, ut procedat, et ut viros fortes et religiosos, producat.* His Holiness Pope Pius XI renewed this Apostolic Blessing on February 21, 1931.

Yearly the number of students increased so that in the summer of 1906 ground was broken for a new wing which was dedicated on March 25, 1908, at which time the Most Reverend Bishop Gallagher celebrated Pontifical Mass. Special trains from Galveston and Houston brought thousands of representative Catholics to the scene. The late Msgr. J. M. Kirwin preached the sermon. In December, 1911, diocesan priests undertook the direction of the Seminary under the presidency of Right Reverend J. M. Kirwin.

The Most Reverend C. E. Byrne was appointed to the See of Galveston on July 18, 1918. His Excellency was installed the following November and stated in his first sermon to his flock that it would be a primary object of his tenure of office to endeavor to increase the number of native vocations to the priesthood.

In 1920 the original building was moved to its present location and considerable alterations were made. The charter originally granted to St. Mary's University of Galveston, by the State Legislature in August, 1856, was amended on May 1, 1926, by the Secretary of State, changing La Porte for Galveston. Thereafter St. Mary's Seminary was known as St. Mary's University.

In 1927, a Church was erected in memory of Monsignor Kirwin who served as rector from December, 1911, until his death in 1926. Up to the present time 209 priests have made all or part of their studies at St. Mary's. One of its first students, Right Reverend Monsignor J. A. Valenta, has been at St. Mary's since 1902 and is now serving as Spiritual Director. Seventy-one of the diocesan clergy are natives of the Diocese, and of the present enrollment of fifty-seven students, fifty are natives. The minor seminary was discontinued in 1940, but it is hoped that it will be reopened when larger accommodations are provided.

Right Reverend J. T. Fleming, present rector of the University, has served since 1933.

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

List of Rectors and Professors

Basilian Fathers

Very Rev. J. T. Player, C.S.B., Rector	1901-1903
Father V. J. Donelly, C.S.B.	1901-1911
Very Rev. E. A. Hurley, C.S.B., Rector	1903-1907
Father M. J. Pickett, C.S.B.	1901-1907
Father J. C. Plummer, C.S.B.	1901-1911
Father E. J. O'Neill, C.S.B.	1901-1911
Very Rev. T. F. Gignac, C.S.B., Rector	1907-1911

Diocesan Priests

Right Rev. Msgr. J. M. Kirwin, Rector	1911-1926
Right Rev. Msgr. Jos. Pelnar, Rector,	
September to December	1911
Right Rev. Msgr. J. A. Rapp	1911-1928
Father J. B. O'Leary	1911-1914
Right Rev. Msgr. J. A. Valenta	1911-
Father T. J. Finn	1914-1933
Right Rev. Msgr. D. P. O'Connell	1915-1933
Rector	1928-1933
Father T. F. Hogan	1922-1932

Right Rev. Msgr. E. A. Kelly, P.A.,	
Rector	1926-1928
Right Rev. Msgr. L. J. Reicher, P.A.	1926-1927
Father M. J. Leahy	1926-1940
Father J. K. Reybaud	1927-1929
Father H. A. Drouilhet	1928-1940
Right Rev. Msgr. J. T. Fleming	1928-
Rector since	1933-
Father E. A. Holub	1929-1936
Father D. Leahy	1929-1940
Father J. P. Walsh	1936-1943
Father A. B. Deslatte	1937-
Father H. A. Dillon	1938-
Father V. M. Haris	1940-
Very Rev. T. A. Carney	1941-
Father Carl Kerniet	1943-
Father J. A. Nelson	1946-
Father V. Di Premio	1946-

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Newman Clubs

The Newman Clubs are Catholic student groups in our secular colleges and universities. These exist at the University of Texas at Austin, the A. & M. College of Texas at Bryan, the University of Houston, The Rice Institute at Houston, the University of Texas Medical School at Galveston, and the Sam Houston State Teachers College at Huntsville, and number 4000 Catholic students. The clubs are named after their founder, Cardinal Newman, saintly scholar of Oxford University.

In 1906, the first Newman Club in the United States was organized at the University of Pennsylvania. Today there are Newman Clubs in 300 American universities and colleges which are affiliated with the Youth Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, Washington, D. C., under the episcopal guidance of the Most Reverend James E. Kearney, D.D., Bishop of Rochester.

In this centenary year of the Diocese of Galveston, and the centenary also of Cardinal Newman's ordination to the Priesthood, May 30, 1847, and upon the invitation of our Most Reverend Bishop, the Newman Clubs of the National Federation will hold their annual convention in the Diocese at Houston, July 11, 12, and 13. The

University of Houston Club, and Ava Maria Club of The Rice Institute will be the hosts, assisted by the other clubs of the South Central States Province.

The activities of Newman Clubs are religious, educational, and social. Meetings are held weekly, conducted by student officers, under the guidance of the chaplain; and these meetings are the medium of directing the students' religious life on the campus through annual retreats, monthly communion breakfasts, weekly lectures and discussions, and private conferences. Social functions, a necessity for youth, are frequent and both formal and informal.

Bible courses with University credits are taught at the University of Texas. The two chaplains, Father Tierney and Father Prindiville, Paulist Fathers, are members of the University Faculty. These classes enroll approximately 400 students, both Catholic and non-Catholic, each school year. These Fathers have recently purchased for the Diocese a very fine location at the University of Texas for a new Catholic center, a new chapel and a building with ample classrooms, library, auditorium, gymnasium, lounge rooms, etc., for 1800 Catholic students attending the University. It is to be erected soon at an estimated cost of \$500,000.

At A. & M. College, Monsignor Gleissner and Father Tim Valenta have made similar plans for their several hundred Catholic Aggies.

The majority of our Catholic youth are in our state schools. To withhold guidance and leadership from them today would be a fearful risk. A walkout of the Church would be an irreparable forfeit. Newman's idea of a century ago is a must of today: to carry the Church into the centers of learning.

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Kirwin High School

GALVESTON

With the closing of St. Mary's University, La Porte, Texas, to outside students, the boys of Galveston were left without a Catholic high school education. To remedy this, Most Reverend Christopher E. Byrne, D.D., established Odin High School in the old St. Joseph's School. The school was opened in September, 1926, with the Ursuline and Dominican Sisters furnishing the staff. Father M. S. Chataignon, who is now a monsignor, was the first Principal, and Msgr. John S. Murphy was the first President of the Board.

It was in August of 1931 that Brother Arsenius, F.S.C., with six brothers took over the direction of Kirwin High School from the Ursulines and Dominicans. A very generous reception was given the Christian Brothers who had previously been located on the island, but in another capacity.

Under the able direction of Reverend Brother Arsenius, the high school marched safely forward. A group of enthusiastic Knights of Columbus was organized into an Athletic Association to put over the growing athletic program at the new school. Brother Arsenius remained as Principal of Kirwin for three years until he was reappointed Provincial of the Southern Province of the Christian Brothers.

Following the footsteps of Brother Arsenius was Brother Adelbert, one time President of St. Paul's College, Covington, Louisiana, who filled the office of Principal of Kirwin for the allotted six canonical years. For the first time the enrollment numbered over 150, in 1935 to 1936. Reverend Father Campbell was ordained as the first alumnus of the new school in 1936. The Centennial of Texas Independence was marked with fifty students participating in the San Jacinto celebration.

The term 1936-1937 proved prolific for Kirwin: its students had given more to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith than any other school in the Diocese; the efforts of the Sodality and Literary Society had brought forth amiable results; and the football team, having won the District Championship, played the Corpus Christi Cavaliers for the Catholic high school title, thus

bringing to Galveston the first State Championship game ever played in the city.

In the summer of 1938, Kirwin lost a beloved faculty member in the person of Brother Bruno Patrick. He had been a pioneer at Kirwin and had accomplished much with Senior classes, teams, and various other activities. Graced with many talents, this versatile young brother died following an operation.

In the second semester of the year 1938-1939, the first sizable donation towards the construction of the new Kirwin Building Fund was received from Mrs. A. L. Sommer. A record number of forty Seniors graduated in 1939.

With six years of principalship to his record Reverend Brother Adelbert, F.S.C., was transferred to Cathedral High School, Lafayette, Louisiana, in the same capacity. He was succeeded by Reverend Brother Conrad, F.S.C., M.A., recently returned from Rome, Italy. In the term beginning September, 1940, the enrollment reached 217. The new Principal, an energetic and enterprising man, put over the complete plans for enlarging Kirwin High School. A drive was initiated to obtain \$100,000 for a new school.

In 1941 the new Kirwin building plans were set forth by Mr. Raymond R. Rapp, prominent Galveston architect. Pledges amounted to \$104,000 and the students played an important part in the drive.

Kirwin started its tenth session under the Christian Brothers in September, 1942. The Most Reverend Christopher E. Byrne, D.D., dedicated Kirwin High School in February, 1942, and the new building was occupied in March of the same year.

In his six years at Kirwin, Brother Conrad saw the enrollment reach 250, with many boys from the neighboring towns in attendance. The able Ladies Auxiliary under the presidency of Mrs. A. J. Biron purchased the old homestead adjacent to the new Kirwin High School as a home for the Christian Brothers who previously occupied the rear of the Moody establishment. In a patriotic attempt to meet the war emergency and to instill military discipline in its charges, Kirwin adopted

the Civilian Air Patrol Unit of which Charles Trahan was commissioned lieutenant colonel.

Brother Conrad was succeeded by Reverend Brother Jasper, F.S.C., one time Senior teacher and science mentor at Kirwin and who is at present watching the growth of a small but popular Catholic institution.

Five of the alumni are now priests.

The Brothers are ever grateful for the co-operation of the Bishop and priests who throughout the history of the school have been its faithful supporters.

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Holy Cross School

AUSTIN

In 1941 one of the sisters was sent to take charge of Holy Cross School. Previous to her coming, the school, which consisted of a kindergarten and first grade, had been conducted by a non-Catholic lay woman.

With the coming of the sister, the second, third, fourth and fifth grades were added. The following year two more sisters were stationed at Holy Cross to teach. There has been a gradual increase in enrollment from the original twenty-two pupils to the present 130. Four sisters are now teaching the eight grades. In 1946, Holy Cross School had its first graduation.

There are now more Catholic children attending Holy Cross than in 1941. At that time there was one Catholic boy, and he but a convert of six months.

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Passionist Fathers

HOUSTON

The Passionist Fathers, founded by St. Paul of the Cross in 1727, made their last foundation in this country in Houston on May 14, 1946, at the invitation of Bishop Byrne. Three fathers lived in temporary quarters until a permanent residence was purchased in the fall of 1946 on Bunker Hill Road. The three priests, Fathers Aloysius Dowling, C.P., Superior; George Jungels, C.P., well-known missionary; and Bartholomew Adler, C.P., chaplain in the recent war, make up the first community of Passionists in Texas.

The principal work of the Congregation of the Passion, consists of the preaching of Missions and Retreats. They do not conduct high schools or colleges but are engaged in education only as the training of their own students is concerned. Their mission work embraces the foreign mission field as well as the home missions. In recent years, they took on the work in behalf of the colored people in Alabama.

The method followed in conducting a parish mission, is much the same as that used by St. Paul of the Cross and the early missionaries. They speak from a platform on which is erected a large mission Crucifix. The mission exercises are inspiring and devotional. It is the preaching of Christ and Him Crucified and the explanation of the Eternal Truths, that fill the confessionals and increase the attendance at the altar rail.

Since coming to Texas, the Fathers have been assisting in the various parishes and religious communities, but it is their fond hope that the day is not far distant when they will be able to erect a Monastery and Laymen's Retreat House in the city of Houston. With the increase of the faithful, it will then be possible, not only to conduct the week-end retreats but, likewise, to give the priests of the Diocese every assistance in their care of the souls.

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BEAUMONT

*Ryan Cottage
School of Nursing
Nurse's Home, Hotel Dieu*

*St. Mary's Hall
St. Therese Hospital
Hotel Dieu Hospital*

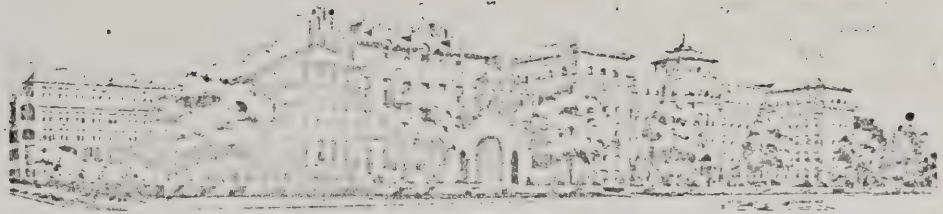


Seton Hospital, Austin

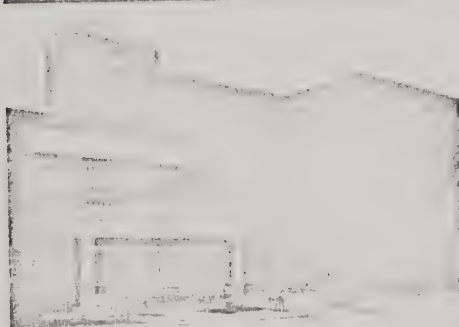
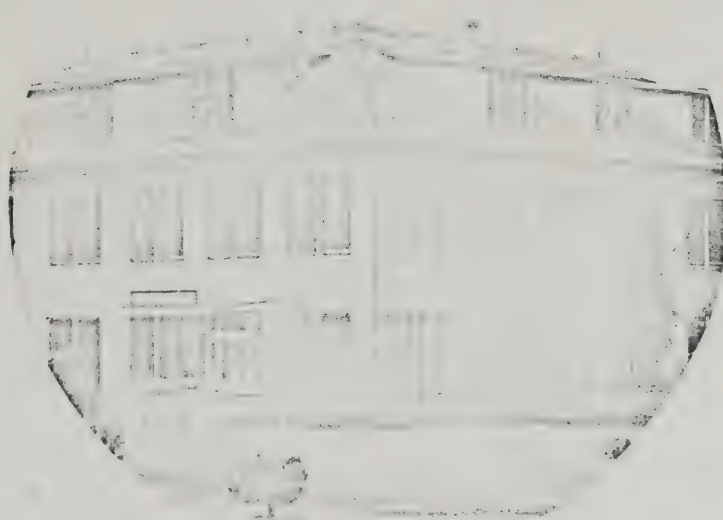
Home of the Holy Infancy, Austin

Newman Club, Austin

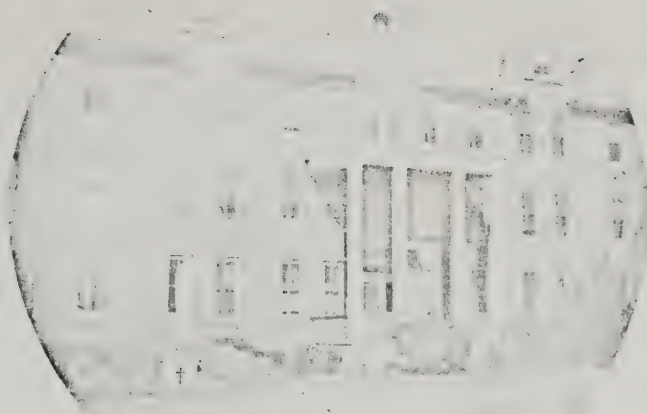
Newman Hall, Austin



Providence Hospital, Waco
 Santa Fe Hospital, Temple
 St. Mary's Hospital, Port Arthur



St. Joseph Hospital, Bryan
St. Francis Hospital, Brenham
Mercy Hospital, Liberty *Our Lady of Peace Missionary Center, Brenham*



St. Anthony's Home

St. Mary's Academy, Palestine

Dominican Sisters, Lufkin

St. Mary's Seminary, La Porte



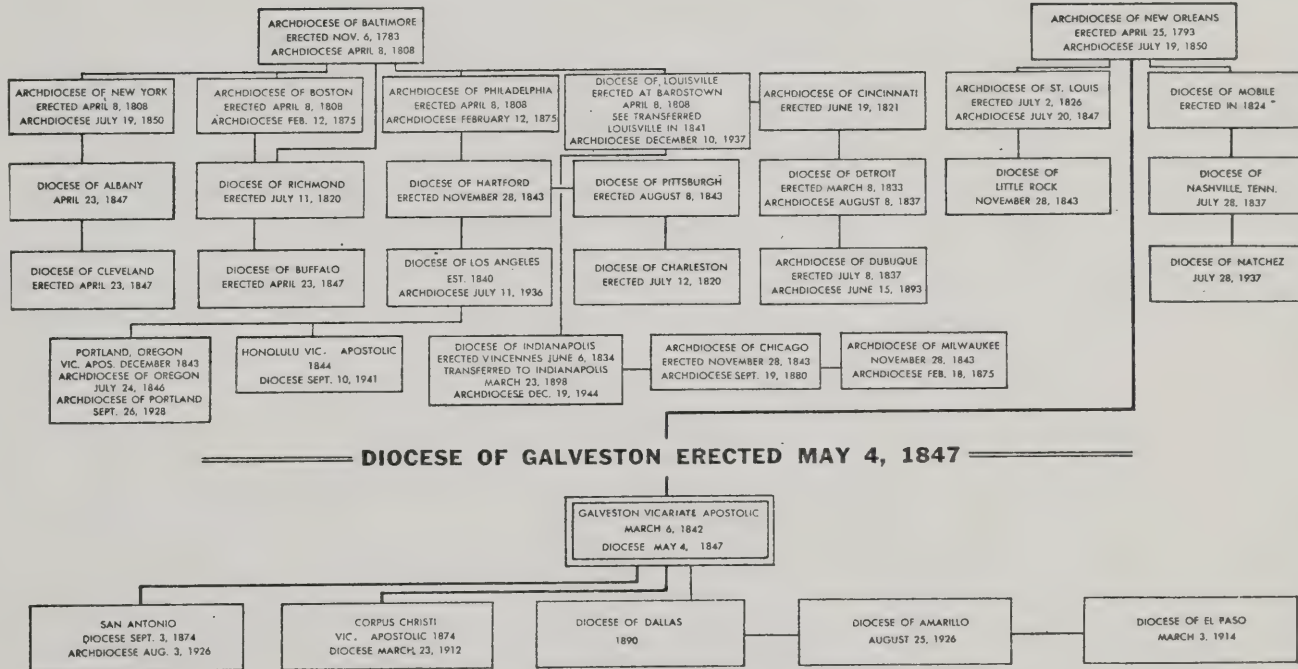
NEGRO HOSPITALS

St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Houston

Holy Cross Hospital, Austin

Hotel Dieu Hospital For Colored Patients, Beaumont

**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES AT THE
TIME OF THE ERECTION OF THE DIOCESE OF GALVESTON
AND
THE DIOCESES WHICH HAVE BEEN ERECTED FROM
THE ORIGINAL DIOCESE OF GALVESTON**



GARDEN OF GETHSEMANI



ENTRANCE TO GARDEN OF GETHSEMANI

This is the entrance to the Garden of Gethsemani, which is an officially dedicated Catholic cemetery. In the distance, framed by the curve of the wall, can be seen the Crucifixion Group.



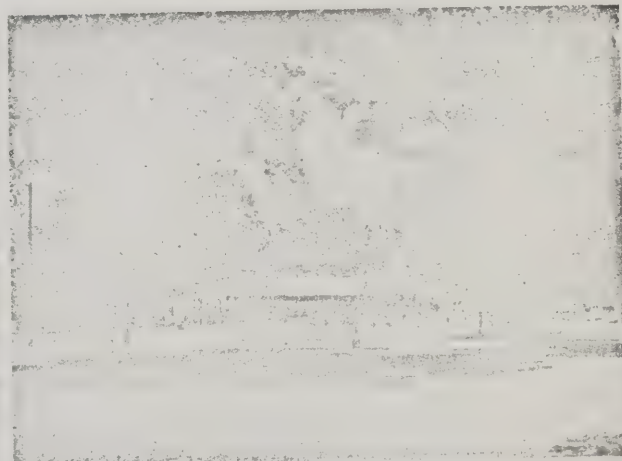
THE CATACOMBS

This is the only officially dedicated Catholic Mausoleum in the Galveston diocese. The Catacombs is provided with a regular dedicated altar.



CRUCIFIXION GROUP

As you enter the Garden of Gethsemani this Crucifixion Group comes into full view. To the rear of this group, in the formation of a cross, are the Fourteen Stations of the Cross.



LAKEVIEW SECTION

The Garden of Gethsemani abounds in scenes like this, where well kept lawns and well kept shrubbery supplement the beauty and majesty of the trees.

FOREST PARK CEMETERY

and

GARDEN OF GETHSEMANI

7102 Lawndale

P.O. Box 194

W. 6-3158

HOUSTON 1, TEXAS

Ursuline Academy

GALVESTON

Seven Ursuline Nuns accompanying the Right Reverend John M. Odin, first Bishop of Texas, sailed from New Orleans in 1847, for Galveston aboard the Palmetto. They docked January 19, 1847, and took up residence in a two-story house on the grounds where the present convent stands. School was opened in Galveston that year, and in San Antonio in 1851. To this later assignment New Orleans offered several nuns, and the Bishop selected three from the Galveston community.

Epidemics of yellow fever in 1857 and 1858 practically closed the school to pupils, but its doors were open to aid the suffering populace. In May, 1861, Bishop Odin, who had been a great friend of the Ursulines, left Galveston to become Archbishop of New Orleans. A new building for the convent was nearing completion; but in September it was diverted from its original purpose to become a Confederate Hospital, and the nuns became nurses. The war years that followed were full of danger and privation. Towards the end of January, 1863, the hospital was removed to Houston; life became more normal in the monastery, and, in time, pupils returned in increasing numbers.

The summer of 1867 saw a return of yellow fever. It was late in November before the epidemic ran its course, and it was the following year before boarding pupils could return. Early in 1874, six nuns left to open a school in Dallas, and the Ursulines have since identified themselves with educational work in Dallas. Late that same year, a Sunday School was opened at the convent for colored women and children and was continued until other arrangements were made for schools for the colored people.

At the invitation of the pastor, Father J. L. Bussant, the Ursulines took charge of St. Patrick's Parochial School, and many years later, in 1917, of St. Peter's, both in Galveston.

The cornerstone of the present Academy was laid December 8, 1891. During the 1900 storm all the buildings of the monastery were thrown open to the public, and about 1,000 persons found refuge during the fearsome hurricane.

With the thought of moving their boarding school inland, the cornerstone of a brick building was laid at Bryan, Texas, March 19, 1901. This school, Villa Maria, educated many young girls of Texas but was closed in 1929.

At the invitation of Pope Leo XIII, the Ursulines of Galveston became charter members of the Ursuline Roman Union, whose headquarters are in Rome.

Ad Multos Annos to St. Ursula's by the Sea.

* * *

The Home of the Holy Infancy

The Ladies of Charity were organized in Austin in 1880 under the name of St. Vincent de Paul Aid Society and in 1903 became affiliated with the Ladies of Charity organized by St. Vincent de Paul in the XVI Century. Their headquarters are in Paris, France.

In their work among the poor these ladies saw the great need of an institution to care for very young children. In 1921, therefore, they secured a dwelling at 2605 Salado Street, opening it as a baby home. The name selected was the Home of the Holy Infancy.

In the beginning, because of their inability to obtain personnel, babies were taken to the homes of these good ladies. Before the end of the year, however, the Sisters of Seton Hospital furnished some student nurses and provided other assistance. Before long the home was too small and it was moved to Avenue G.

In 1924, Bishop Christopher E. Byrne asked the Superiors of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul for sisters to take over the work of the home and in 1932 these arrangements were completed.

Meantime, in May, 1925, the Ladies of Charity conveyed all the properties and other assets of the home to Bishop Byrne.

By the spring of 1932 the present building at 26th and Nueces Streets was finished, the funds for this having been donated by Mr. J. H. Phelan, Sr. Three sisters then took charge of the home, and at the present time fifty-four children under five years of age are being cared for without distinction of creed or nationality. The capacity of the building is forty-five, and during 1946 over 15,000 care days were given to 210 children.

Providence Hospital WACO

The history of Providence Hospital is the history of hospitalization in Waco, it being the first establishment of this kind in the city.

Many unsuccessful attempts had been made to obtain a hospital for Waco. One day, however, Dr. J. W. Hale and Mr. C. D. Johnson of Waco had occasion to travel to New Orleans, accompanying a patient whom they entered at the Touro Infirmary. They were so impressed by the care and attention given their patient that upon their return they immediately took steps to secure the beginning of a similar hospital in their home city.

The matter was presented by Mr. Johnson at the meeting of the Business Men's Club and, as a result of his enthusiastic representations of the benefits to be derived from the hospital, the program was readily adopted and committees appointed to secure the necessary funds for the purchase of the hospital site.

The necessary amount to purchase the ground was realized the first day of the canvass, and the present site of the hospital was purchased from Judge M. Serett.

The Sisters of the Order of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul accepted the proposition. The committee felt very satisfied with the success of their efforts for the reason that these sisters were already well established in hospital work in Texas at Dallas and belonged to one of the oldest and strongest orders in the Catholic Church.

The hospital was completed in December, 1904, and formally opened for the admission of patients, January 1, 1905. The dedication ceremony took place on January 11, 1905.

The sisters were fortunate enough to obtain a hospital contract from the Missouri-Kansas and Texas Railway. This contract remained in force for seven years, during which time 3700 railroad patients were cared for. At the end of the seven years the hospital had acquired so excellent a reputation in the community that all available space was necessary for the local patronage, and the hospital contract with the M. K. & T. was terminated.

In 1906 the Providence Hospital School of Nursing was established. The graduates of this school are eligible for all branches of nursing service. In 1916 a building for the accommodation of the nursing students was erected a little to the west and rear of the main building. During the years following the erection of this building the demand for hospital beds increasing, it became necessary to utilize some of the space in the nurses' home for the accommodation of patients. Later during World War II, the demand for hospital beds still increasing, it was decided to complete arrangements to take over the entire building for the care of patients and to rent houses in the neighborhood of the hospital. For this purpose five large homes were rented to accommodate the student enrollment which, during this period, increased to 130 students. Since the nurses' recreation room and library were utilized for patients, the necessity for making up this loss has been supplied by renting a large building directly across the street and in front of the hospital. Thus, Providence Hospital met the challenge of increasing the hospital bed capacity as well as training additional nursing students as a war measure. The arrangement to house the nursing students beyond the precincts of the hospital worked out satisfactorily as a wartime emergency, but could only be a temporary measure. The School of Nursing is accredited with the Texas Board of Nurse Examiners and approved by the National and State Leagues of Nursing Education, and meets all requirements of other states.

Today, Providence Hospital is approved by the American College of Surgeons, registered with the American Medical Association, a member of the Catholic Hospital Association of the United States and Canada, the American Hospital Association and the Texas Hospital Association and stands as a tribute to the untiring and devoted service and labor of the sisters, doctors and nurses. No greater proof of this could be asked than the attitude of the citizens of Waco during the recent campaign to raise funds for a newer and bigger Providence. The drive, opening on November 19, 1946, was considered the most unique and successful campaign ever attempted in Waco.

Seton Hospital

AUSTIN

The cornerstone of Seton Hospital, then known as Seton Infirmary, was laid in the spring of 1901. The founding of this hospital was brought about by some charitable women of Austin who were banded together under the patronage of St. Vincent de Paul to assist the poor and to especially see that the Catholic patients in the city hospital did not die without the Sacraments.

A block of ground was purchased in a choice section of the city and deeded to the Community of Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul whose central house was located in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The sisters at their own expense built a very modern and well-equipped hospital. To the people of Austin it seemed a generously large building, but to the sisters themselves it seemed so small that it quickly came to be nicknamed among them the "Baby of the Community." The new hospital was opened on May 26, 1902.

In 1917 and again in 1918, Travis County suffered from an outbreak of smallpox. The "pest camp" was also without any equipment for the proper care of the sick. The number of cases increased daily and the death rate mounted alarmingly. In this emergency, they finally turned to Seton for help. Fortunately, a sister who had had wide experience in handling smallpox was at hand. She was put in charge of the camp with a force of volunteer nurses—sisters and lay nurses from the School of Nursing. Immediately order was brought out of chaos. In 235 cases handled, all were recoveries.

During World War I, Austin was the location for three military training schools. Influenza broke out among them and all local resources were strained to the breaking point. Seton came to the rescue, giving over its entire house, renting neighboring houses, and filling its grounds with tents. They called on women of Austin for volunteer help and organized the work so capably that the Army officials were soon able to give a good account of the situation. One sister, refusing to leave her post when the disease attacked her, literally died on duty.

Many times through the years Seton outgrew its buildings. Since 1901, six additions have been

added and in the coming spring a seventh will be added which will give an additional 100 beds, plus added space for surgery and obstetrics, thus making a total bed capacity of approximately 250.

The School of Nursing which was organized in 1902 has one of the most modern residences in the state.

* * * *

St. Elizabeth's Hospital

HOUSTON

Since Sisters of the Immaculate Conception began their work among the Negroes in Austin, in July, 1940, the Bishop of Galveston and other prominent persons recognized the good work the sisters were doing for this neglected group and requested them to undertake hospital work among the colored people in Houston.

The project of a Catholic hospital for the colored people in Houston originated with Father Joseph A. Lally, S.S.J., and Father Thomas J. Noonan, S.S.J., in collaboration with several colored Catholic physicians. Father John J. Roach, Diocesan Director of Catholic Charities, with several priests and doctors, arranged to provide a large share of the building fund if the colored people would raise \$10,000. Bishop Byrne gave his approval to this plan and directed that the hospital be dedicated to St. Elizabeth.

Father Roach, at the suggestion of Bishop Byrne, approached the Reverend Mother Pacifica with the petition that she take over the work of the newly-planned St. Elizabeth's Hospital. Within a few months of her acceptance of this new work (in February, 1944) the formulation of the building plans began, and by June, 1945, construction was under way.

Many of the latest developments in mechanical and technical equipment have been installed, contributing to convenience and efficiency in caring for the patients. Among the services provided will be all general surgery, X-ray, laboratory, basal metabolism, electro-cardiogram, etc.

The most beautiful feature of St. Elizabeth's is the chapel which is centrally located, directly off the main foyer. The Sacramental Presence will be a source of inspiration, courage, and strength in carrying on this noble, Christlike work.

Dominican Sisters

HOUSTON

In 1882 the Dominican Nuns from Somerset, Ohio, arrived in Galveston under the leadership of Mother Mary Agnes. There the motherhouse was erected.

The Dominican influence for good flourished in the community. Sacred Heart Academy, St. Mary's Cathedral School, and Holy Rosary Colored School were established.

Upon the death of Mother Agnes, and as her last wish, Sister Pauline was made Mother General. During Mother Pauline's administration, in 1895, the sisters opened St. Anthony's Parochial School, Beaumont; in 1896, St. Mary's School, Taylor; and in 1897, Sacred Heart School, Houston.

After the storm of 1900 several sisters were sent to Lampasas because of ill health. Later the old college in which the sisters lived was purchased and was known as St. Dominic's Villa.

In 1906, St. Agnes' Academy, a boarding and day school for girls, was erected in the south end, a remote suburb of Houston. The boarding school was abandoned because of the need of classrooms.

Sacred Heart School, Brenham, was opened in 1909; All Saints and Holy Rosary Schools, Houston, in 1913; and St. Mary's, Port Arthur, in 1914. Our Lady of Guadalupe was opened by the Dominicans in 1915, but was transferred to the Holy Cross Sisters in 1919.

In 1918, Newman Hall, Austin, was dedicated by Msgr. James M. Kirwin, as a dormitory for women, among both the religious and the laity, who were students at the University of Texas. Newman Hall also houses the sisters who teach in Newman School, St. Austin's Parish.

After Mother Pauline's death, in 1921, her successor, Mother Catherine, continued the apostolic work, which had now taken on considerable momentum. In 1921 she took over St. Michael's

School, Burlington; in 1922, opened St. Catherine's School, Port Neches; in 1924, St. Mary's School, Orange; in 1932, Our Lady of Sorrows School, San Antonio; in 1934, took over Sacred Heart Parochial School, Galveston.

In 1926, the Odin High School, now known as Kirwin High School, was opened conjointly by the Dominicans and the Ursulines, who paved the way for the Christian Brothers to whom the school was assigned in 1931.

Under the supervision of Mother Catherine, the site of the motherhouse was changed from Galveston to Houston in 1926, and again after twenty years another institution, Sacred Heart Convent Dominican Novitiate was dedicated by the Most Reverend C. E. Byrne.

With the growth of Houston came the need for more parishes, hence more schools. Thus St. Mary's School opened in 1930; Christ the King School, in 1931; St. Christopher's School, in 1939; and St. Peter's School, in 1942.

After Mother M. Angela became Superioress in 1934, missions were opened in Rosenberg, Nederland, and Nacogdoches. An attractive wing was added to the motherhouse, and the new auditorium building, erected on the grounds of St. Agnes' Academy, was dedicated by Bishop Byrne in 1940. In the same year at the Sacred Heart Convent, Galveston, a high school building was erected to the memory of Mother M. Agnes. The newest mission is Holy Rosary School, San Bernardino, California.

Plans are under way for a second wing and a chapel to be added to the motherhouse. Likewise the Sacred Heart Dominican College, though only in its infancy, has approbation both from the Catholic University, Washington, D. C., and the state of Texas.

Sisters of Charity of Incarnate Word

Villa de Matel, the motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word of the Diocese of Galveston, is situated in Houston.

From this motherhouse the Mother General and her Council direct the welfare of eighteen branch institutions in which over 400 religious are carrying on the various works of the Congregation, consisting of the care of the sick, the aged, and the orphans. These institutions are, with the exception of St. Michael's Convent in Ireland, established in the West and the Southwest of the United States.

In the order in which they were founded these are St. Mary's Infirmary and St. Mary's Orphanage both of Galveston; St. Joseph's Infirmary, Houston; Santa Fe Hospital, Temple; Hotel Dieu, Beaumont; St. Patrick's Hospital, Lake Charles, Louisiana; Schumpert Memorial Hospital, Shreveport, Louisiana; Michael Meagher Hospital, Texarkana, Arkansas; St. Joseph's Home, Pineville, Louisiana; St. Mary's Hospital, Long Beach, California; St. Mary's Home, Lafayette, Louisiana; Villa de Matel, Houston; St. Mary's—Gates Memorial Hospital, Port Arthur; St. Bernardine's Hospital, San Bernardino, California; St. Therese Hospital, Beaumont; and St. Edward's Hospital, Cameron.

The Generalate of the Congregation was first organized in 1902, the late Mother Columba being elected the first superior general. The present Mother General, Mother Elizabeth, was elected in 1946.

Of the above named institutions, St. Mary's Infirmary, Galveston, is the oldest, and the first Catholic hospital in Texas. Furthermore, from 1866 until 1925, when it was supplanted by Villa de Matel, it had been the motherhouse and novitiate of the Congregation.

The Congregation was given its present form and purpose in September, 1866, in France by the famed Bishop Dubuis, second bishop of Galveston. On September 23, 1866, the three young women who had offered to exile themselves received from the hands of Bishop Dubuis a religious habit and their new religious names, Sisters Mary Blandine

of Jesus, Mary Joseph of Jesus, and Mary Ange of Jesus.

These three foundation stones of the new Congregation became united on that day under the name of Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word. They left Havre, France, September 25, 1866, and set foot in Galveston on October 25, of that year.

In February, 1867, Mother Blandine and her two companions moved from the Ursuline convent into the first home of the infant Congregation in the new world. Coincidentally another building was in the course of erection. This was the two-story frame structure, which was to house the first Catholic hospital in the state of Texas. The hospital opened April 1, 1867. The sisters had also assumed the care of orphans at the hospital, but in 1874 the orphanage became a separate institution.

On March 9, 1869, the order sent sisters to open a Catholic hospital in San Antonio known as the Santa Rosa. This branch house was rendered independent of the Galveston house.

In addition to their missionary work at the Galveston City Hospital, the sisters were then supporting a little school and hospital there, a school in Houston, and the San Antonio mission.

In the spring of 1871 three sisters went to Hearne to take charge of a hospital erected there by the International Railroad. It was called St. Therese's Hospital. In 1872 the hospital was abandoned.

The effects of the awful tragedy of the 1900 storm on St. Mary's Orphanage were fatal to ninety-one orphans and ten sisters. On the first mournful anniversary of that tragedy, September 8, 1901, Bishop Gallagher laid the cornerstone for a new home for the orphans. At St. Mary's Orphanage today, besides provision for the physical necessities of ninety children, there is a well conducted educational program comparable to that of any other elementary school.

In February, 1887, a large building on Franklin and Caroline Streets in Houston was placed at the disposal of the sisters for use as a hospital.

In June of that year the St. Joseph's Infirmary was opened with a staff of eight sisters from St. Mary's Infirmary, Galveston. Ever since, despite many hardships, the Sisters of St. Joseph's have unremittingly served the sick of Houston. In 1891 when smallpox struck Houston, the sisters willingly offered their lives to care for the sick.

In February, 1891, five sisters and Dr. Wilkinson went to Temple to prepare a small frame hospital for its opening in June. For fifty years the sisters have had the nursing care of the Santa Fe Railroad employees in that hospital.

In 1894, St. Joseph's Infirmary, which the Congregation rebuilt, was moved to Crawford Street. It was planned exclusively for the accommodation of private patients, and was erected in connection with St. Mary's Infirmary, Galveston.

Two sisters went to Beaumont with the approval of Bishop Gallagher, for the opening of a new hospital named Hotel Dieu, in May, 1897. Fourteen years later a four-story brick structure was erected.

In 1897 the Congregation broadened its missionary field by opening in Houston the institution known as St. Anthony's Home for old people. It is built on a fifty-acre tract of land which was donated by Mrs. Costello. The institution was supported from St. Joseph's Infirmary.

Prior to 1900 then, the Congregation had established St. Mary's Infirmary and nine other institutions of which seven had survived the first hard years, and are to this day carrying on the work for which they were founded.

For five years after the 1900 storm, the Congregation made no new foundations. In the meantime, it constructed the convent and chapel still in use at St. Mary's Infirmary and a convent and a hospital wing at St. Joseph's Infirmary, Houston.

In 1907 two new foundations were made, St. Patrick's Sanitarium at Lake Charles, Louisiana, and Schumpert Memorial Hospital at Shreveport, Louisiana. The latter was opened at the request of Right Reverend C. Van de Ven, Bishop of Alexandria.

In 1914 the present four-story west wing of St. Mary's Infirmary in Galveston was constructed.

The next year a hospital, Michael Meagher Memorial, was opened in Texarkana, Arkansas.

In 1917 came the request from Bishop Van de Ven of Alexandria for some sisters to take charge of the orphans of his Diocese. He built St. Joseph's Home in Pineville, Louisiana, and the sisters have since had charge of it.

The lack of a suitable site for a novitiate in Galveston resulted in transfer to Houston. Permission of the Holy See was obtained in January, 1922. The next month the Congregation bought the property located on Lawndale and Wayside in Houston.

The Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, Bishop of Galveston, blessed the site and turned the first sod in the foundation on April 24, 1924. On March 8, 1925, the cornerstone of the building was laid by His Excellency, the Most Reverend Pietro Fumasoni-Biondi, then apostolic delegate to the United States. Since then he has been created Cardinal, and at present is the Cardinal Protector of this Congregation.

As soon as the convent structure was completed, the actual transfer of the novitiate took place and the first Mass was said in a temporary chapel. In 1928, after the completion of the chapel building, the Mother General and her Council also moved to Villa de Matel, Houston, from St. Mary's Infirmary, Galveston.

St. Mary's Home, or orphanage, in Lafayette, Louisiana, was opened October 19, 1924, at the request of Most Reverend J. B. Jeanmard.

In the spring of 1923, at the request of the Most Reverend J. J. Cantwell, Bishop of Los Angeles, the sisters took charge of a hospital in Long Beach, California. In 1933 an earthquake destroyed this building; later a steel and concrete structure was built.

The sisters next acquired the Lord Fitzgerald estate in County Clare, Ireland. They adapted the elegant mansion thereon to their need and opened in it a receiving house for aspirants to the Congregation.

In Port Arthur, Texas, on May 1, 1929, the sisters opened another hospital. Trustees of the property deeded to the sisters the Mary Gates Hospital and equipment and \$100,000 to be paid out of the Mary Gates Hospital Endowment

Fund. These contributions resulted in the splendid new St. Mary's-Gates Memorial Hospital.

A second foundation, also a hospital, was made in California in 1931, with the building of St. Bernardine's Hospital at San Bernardino. The steel and concrete hospital, five stories high, was dedicated by Bishop Cantwell on October 10, 1931.

The seventeenth house of the Congregation was established in 1934 when the sisters purchased in Beaumont from a group of doctors a private hospital equipped to accommodate 115 patients. They named it St. Therese's Hospital.

The eighteenth house was added in 1946 when a private hospital in Cameron was turned over to the sisters and dedicated as St. Edward's.

Additions have been built in the Galveston, Houston and Texarkana hospitals in recent years. At Villa de Matel the Congregation carries on an organized basic program of religious and secular studies.

* * * * *

Catholic Women's Club

The Catholic Women's Club Home for young working girls was organized in 1918 by a small group of Catholic Women who sensed the need of a public service in providing wholesome living conditions for young girls of moderate income who are away from home.

With this in mind, a temporary location was secured, and in 1923 the present modern building was erected and opened with accommodations for fifty-six girls. Eighty-five thousand dollars was borrowed to erect and equip this building.

The rooms are comfortable and light, each designed for two girls. The two dormitories are pleasant, light and airy, accommodating twenty-two girls.

There is also a spacious living room with piano, radio and library, and a dining room. Baths, showers, and drinking fountains are provided on the second and third floors. Sewing machines and laundry service are also available for the girls.

Suitable reference is asked of applicants. Young women who live in the Home must be single and receiving a moderate income. Rates include two meals a day—breakfast and dinner.

The Home is a participating agency of the Community Chest.

San Jose Clinic

HOUSTON

The mortality rate among Mexican people, especially the infants, was very high in the city of Houston in 1924. The late Monsignor Walsh, under the direction of the Bishop, appealed to the National Council of Catholic Women to establish a free medical clinic in the Mexican district of the city.

In July, 1924, this clinic opened in a rented building on Franklin Street. It was staffed from the beginning by local doctors who offered their time free of charge. The first Chief of Staff was Dr. P. H. Scardino.

The doctor who can be credited possibly with doing most to keep the clinic open these many years, is Dr. Marshall Wallis, now retired. He has a record of more than fifteen years of continuous service at the clinic.

At first the clinic was maintained through donations from the various parishes and private individuals, but in 1928, it became a fund participating agency of the Houston Community Chest. From year to year, as needs grew, the amount received from the Chest increased. The budget for 1947 allows the clinic, now known as San Jose Clinic, \$9,981.

The first President of the Board of the Mexican Clinic was Mrs. W. E. Kendall and the present one is Mrs. Lucian R. Carroll. Through the years the clinic has always been blessed with a goodly number of volunteer workers. Through the years of World War II, the mainstay of these volunteers and the skeleton staff of doctors, was Mrs. Arthur Clark. The Charity Guild, a group of zealous laywomen, has long given much assistance to the clinic.

In 1946, the Reverend Mother of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception was asked by Bishop Byrne to take over the supervision of the Mexican Clinic, and Sisters M. Leonardine and Sister M. Manuela took charge officially on October 1, 1946. From that date they have been busy with the renovation of the clinic.

The Mexican Clinic is called San Jose Clinic, in honor of St. Joseph. Under his patronage and guidance, its labors will redound to the honor and glory of God and the spiritual and medical welfare of the Mexicans of Houston.

The Order of the Incarnate Word

In the year 1852 the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament were introduced into the United States by Bishop Odin, the first Bishop of Texas. During one of his visits in France, Bishop Odin visited the Convent in Lyons, told of the great territory comprising his Diocese, which was then the entire state of Texas, and requested the sisters to found the order there. Four sisters were selected, and with Sister M. Clare Valentine as Superioress, they arrived in Galveston, June 29, 1852, where they remained for eight months, learning English and Spanish and acquainting themselves with American customs.

The Oblate Fathers requested that they be given the newly arrived nuns for their school in Brownsville; so Bishop Odin decided that the Foundation of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament in America should be started there, in February, 1853.

In 1873, Father Querat, pastor of St. Vincent's Church in Houston, requested Right Reverend C. M. Dubuis, then Bishop of Galveston, to apply to Reverend Mother Clare, who had founded a convent of the order in Victoria, Texas, from Brownsville, to send a few sisters to found a house of the order in Houston. His request was granted, and on April 25, 1873, Reverend Mother M. Gabriel Dillon, accompanied by two sisters, arrived in Houston and took up their residence in the old Franciscan Monastery across the street from St. Vincent's Church on Franklin Street. A chapel was fitted and on May 5, Mass was celebrated there and the sisters opened their school. A few months later three more sisters were sent from Victoria to help the new foundation.

As Father Querat had invited the sisters to establish their school in the Annunciation Parish, he had secured the half-block adjacent to the Annunciation Church as a site for a convent. The ground was bought by the sisters, plans were prepared and work commenced on one wing of the new academy.

January 3, 1874, school was opened at the Academy and the classrooms were soon filled with

pupils. A few months later the boarding school was opened.

Up to this time the work of the sisters had been confined to the education of young girls. At Father Querat's desire, a room was now fitted up above the sisters' chapel and a school for the Catholic boys of the parish was opened November 2, 1875.

In 1878 the Incarnate Word Academy was chartered by the state of Texas and empowered to confer diplomas.

In 1879, when Father Hennessy became pastor of the Annunciation Parish, a new field of labor was opened to the sisters. Father Hennessy applied to Reverend Mother Gabriel for sisters to open schools in distant parts of his extensive parish, Right Reverend Bishop Dubuis not only permitted but warmly approved the new enterprise. In October, 1879, St. Joseph's Parish began with the school. Mother M. Gabriel had a small building erected which served the double purpose of church and school for about a year under the care of Father Hennessy; afterwards St. Joseph's Parish was organized with Father James Grabinger as first pastor.

St. Patrick's Parish was organized soon after St. Joseph's. Almost simultaneously with St. Patrick's Church was the opening of the school. A small but neat and substantial building was erected and the school was opened September 1, 1880.

In September, 1887, Right Reverend Bishop Gallagher and Father Hennessy, desiring to begin work among the colored people of Houston, erected a large building for school and Church purposes, and for about fifteen years the Sisters of the Incarnate Word conducted this school.

Later the colored Sisters of the Holy Family from New Orleans took charge of the schools.

In 1887, Father Hennessy had a small school-house built for the Catholic boys of the parish, taught by the sisters of the Incarnate Word Academy, and under his own immediate supervision.

Until the year 1888 only one wing of the Incar-

nate Word Academy had been built. The work was now resumed and the main building and left wing were completed.

Until 1888 two Sisters from Incarnate Word Academy and the modest schoolhouse built in 1880 were sufficient for the needs of St. Patrick's School; but because of the constantly increasing number of pupils, an adjoining building was purchased by the sisters, and this building, as well as the old schoolhouse, was remodeled and repainted.

May 18, 1890, all buildings were destroyed by fire. A two-story frame building was erected which served for both church and school. Here the sisters continued their labors under unfavorable circumstances, but the school flourished. On May 20, 1892, this, too, was burned to the ground. By the end of the year a brick church and a frame building consisting of two classrooms were built and the sisters resumed their work. Henceforth the school buildings were to be parish property.

In 1893, during the pastorate of Father Anthony Maury, who succeeded Father Grabinger as pastor of St. Joseph's, the schoolhouse and its furniture were purchased from the sisters and became the property of the parish.

In 1894, Mother Gabriel purchased a thirty-one and one-half acre tract of land on the La Porte Road. Some years later a crude frame building was erected and used for a place of rest and recreation for the sisters during the summer vacation until the new convent on Bissonnet was ready for occupancy in 1932, when the old frame building was torn down.

Mother Gabriel died in July, 1895, and was succeeded by Mother Magdalen.

During her first term of office as Superioress, from 1896 to 1899, a two-story brick building was erected, containing an auditorium, music rooms, dining rooms, and a commercial room.

In 1905, while Reverend Mother Gertrude was Superioress, a large three-story building was erected, chiefly for the use of the boarding pupils of the Academy.

In 1910, Reverend Mother Magdalen was requested by the Rev. Jacob Schnetzer to send

sisters to take charge of the new parochial school in the Blessed Sacrament Parish.

In 1914, at the suggestion of Very Reverend G. T. Walsh, an Alumnae Association was formed among the former pupils of the Academy.

In 1916, the boy's school of the Annunciation Parish ceased to exist as an individual school for boys.

In September, 1919, at the request of Father B. Pfiffner, pastor of St. Mary's Church, Temple, Reverend Mother M. Gertrude sent four sisters from the Academy to establish a parochial school there.

In October, 1924, a forty-acre tract of land was purchased by the sisters on Bissonnet as a site for a new novitiate.

In 1925, at the request of Father F. Pruss, three sisters were sent to Frelsburg to open a parochial school there. A year later the church was burned and the school was not reopened.

In 1926, the Academy was affiliated with the State University of Texas, Austin. In the same year a school was opened in New Waverly.

In 1927, a parochial school was opened in Holy Name Parish, and Father George Wilhelm requested Reverend Mother M. Gertrude to send sisters to take charge of it.

On February 15, 1931, the long-desired project of a new convent was about to be realized when the ground was blessed and broken by Right Reverend G. T. Walsh on the land purchased on Bissonnet Road in 1924. The cornerstone was blessed by Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, D. D., on May 24, 1931.

On April 17, the new convent, under the title of the Convent of the Incarnate Word and Our Lady of Perpetual Help was dedicated by Most Reverend C. E. Byrne, D.D. The following year a boarding and day school for grammar grade pupils was opened at the request of the parents who lived in the neighborhood of the new convent.

In 1931, Father J. J. Kirwin requested sisters to take charge of the new school in Port Arthur, and Father J. B. Gleissner asked for sisters for the school in Bryan.

In 1942, the sisters took charge of St. Vincent's

School at the request of the Rev. Michael Leahy who was then pastor.

In 1942, the alumnae placed a large tombstone in Holy Cross Cemetery, and on it were engraved the names of all the sisters who had died since the foundation in Houston. The first cemetery was within the Academy grounds on Jackson Street where the auditorium now stands; from there the bodies were removed to the old Catholic Cemetery; and the last removal was to Holy Cross. Since 1942, deceased sisters are buried in Gethsemane.

The Library of Incarnate Word Academy is one of the outstanding school libraries of Texas.

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Sisters of the Good Shepherd

HOUSTON

The work of the Good Shepherd Sisters was begun in 1641 by St. John Eudes. In 1835, Mother Mary of St. Euphrasia, who was canonized May 2, 1940, formed the Generalate.

Realizing the words of their saintly foundress, "You will go forth, my daughters, and pitch your tents from one end of the earth to the other," the sisters have convents throughout the United States as well as in almost every country in the world.

In 1902, Right Reverend N. A. Gallagher, D.D., Bishop of Galveston invited the sisters to establish a convent in Houston. But obstacles arose which prevented them from accepting the invitation until May 20, 1914, when a small band of missionaries arrived from St. Louis to begin their work in this city.

The convent will be forever indebted to this venerable Bishop. Upon their arrival the sisters found a house furnished to receive them. His Excellency visited the community on the first day and assured them of his deep gratitude, and that they had come to fulfill one of the greatest desires of his heart, the establishment of a Home of the Good Shepherd in his Diocese. His gifts that day were a handsome ciborium and the altar stone. Later His Excellency gave \$1,100 toward the first payment on the ground purchased as a site for the future convent.

Several generous ladies of the city selected a house at 1511 Chenevert Street, and pledged to pay the rent for a year. Sixteen hundred and fifty girls have been received into the fold since the opening.

Two months previous to the opening of this house, four sisters went throughout the Diocese to collect funds. One of the group, Sister Mary Euphemia Kelly, is still laboring in the Houston convent.

The laying of the cornerstone for the new convent at its present site, 1410 Richmond Avenue, took place September 17, 1917. Monsignor James M. Kirwin represented the Bishop who was ill at the time. The new addition, which includes several excellent modern schoolrooms and accommodates about 100 children, was erected in 1929.

The modern building is situated on a ten-acre campus, which affords plenty of playground space. The curriculum covers from the fourth to the twelfth grades, inclusively, with a fully-accredited high school. Modern text books are used in all the departments, which comprise classes in Religion, Home Economics, Domestic Art, Fine Sewing, Orchestration, Music, Dramatic Art, Home-making, and Choral Singing.

Girls are received regardless of creed or nationality. The desired aim of the sisters in their work of rehabilitation for wayward girls is that of sending the girls back into society after they have acquired habits of honest and gracious living.

* * * *

Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, whose motherhouse is in Paterson, New Jersey, have been in the Diocese of Galveston since 1940. They came at the invitation of His Excellency, Bishop Byrne, primarily to work among the colored people; although recently they have accepted a new post of missionary activity among the Mexicans.

Holy Cross Hospital

AUSTIN

On July 3, 1940, three missionary sisters arrived in Austin, Texas, to take up their first work among the Negroes. Father F. R. Weber, C.S.C., pastor of Holy Cross Church, had built a two-story frame building which he planned originally for a school. The need for hospital facilities for these people was pressing at the time. This and the fact that the colored physicians had no hospital where they could practice medicine and bring their patients were largely responsible for Father Weber's decision to use the building temporarily for a hospital.

It was indeed a humble beginning. When the sisters arrived, they found the building equipped with about twelve plain beds, six bassinets, a second-hand operating-room table and desk. This was Holy Cross Hospital in its infancy. Little by little the sisters secured the equipment that was needed most and by August 15, were able to receive their first patients and to begin, in their own small way, a much needed service to the colored people.

Although they lacked adequate facilities to carry on major surgery, it became imperative that they be prepared for emergencies. They resorted to pressure cookers and wash tubs to sterilize their goods, pans, etc. At that time surgical operations required a week's preparation. Such were some of the handicaps encountered by the pioneers who were called upon time after time to use their ingenuity to cope with various situations.

Today the equipment of the operating room and delivery room is of modern type, and sterilizing facilities are vastly improved. During the past

year a portable X-ray, a basal metabolism machine and an infant resuscitator were purchased, indicating that Holy Cross is making great strides to provide every service for the colored people.

Since the establishment of the hospital in 1940, six additions have been made to cope with its growing needs. Although the capacity is only twenty beds, the hospital is complete and consists of four wards. Because the hospital is generally filled to capacity and as there is no further room for expansion, plans are being considered to build a sixty-bed fireproof hospital.

On February 27, 1942, Holy Cross Hospital was approved by the American Medical Association. Through the untiring efforts of one of the sisters, Dr. Celine Heitzman, resident physician of Holy Cross, a favorable relationship has been fostered between the white and colored doctors. She organized the medical staff composed of both groups. It is worthy of note, that the functioning of this staff has proved instrumental in bringing these two groups together on a professional basis, resulting in mutual interest and benefit.

The work among the Negroes has been very fruitful. The Christlike influence of this hospital has been deeply felt by the colored people who but a few years ago had hardly heard of the existence of the Catholic Church. These people have the utmost respect for the Church because they have seen Christian charity personified in the kindness and care shown them. The hospital has been responsible for the majority of the 400 baptisms recorded in Austin since the establishment of the first Catholic Church for Negroes.

Bishops and Priests of the Diocese Of Galveston (1847-1947)

(With Date of Death)

Rev. Emmanuel Domenech	1852	Rev. T. Grunder	1873
Rev. J. Dixon	1853	Rev. A. J. Bellacos	1873
Rev. J. C. Melton	1853	Rev. M. Stremblet	1873
Rev. Michael Streier	1853	Rev. P. Goddard	1873
Rev. Joseph Garcia	1853	Rev. W. McSweeney	1874
Rev. P. Baudren	1853	Very Rev. M. Sarry	1874
Rev. P. O'Driscoll	1853	Rev. Nick Phelton	1874
Rev. Edward Hug	1853	Rev. A. Guichan	1874
Rev. P. McKim	1855	Rev. V. Bazinski	1875
Rev. P. Duperray	1856	Rev. P. Behr	1875
Rev. P. Hagerty	1857	Rev. F. Mary	1878
Rev. C. Dumas	1858	Rev. M. Weinzaepflen	1878
Rev. P. Neuman	1858	Rev. R. M. Kre	1878
Rev. H. deLestrec	1858	Rev. S. Gealet	1878
Rev. J. Morier	1859	Rev. T. Greynbuhl	1878
Rev. J. J. Speth	1859	Rev. Eugene McSherry	1879
Rev. J. S. Valois	1860	Rev. Lawrence Glynn	1880
Rev. S. Augagneur	1860	Rev. C. Clair	1880
Rev. M. Borias	1860	Rev. P. Ambrozewicz	1880
Rev. C. Raymond	1860	Very Rev. L. C. M. Chambodut, V.G.	1880
Rev. Julian Przysiecki	1860	Rev. M. Grounard	1880
Rev. N. Souchon	1860	Rev. V. George Allen	1882
Rev. P. Beerschneider	1860	Rev. J. Mosiewicz	1883
Rev. M. Neras	1860	Rev. A. Jupin	1883
Rev. James Girandaun	1860	Rev. E. Weststrate	1883
Rev. A. S. Borrajo	1860	Rev. P. Murtagh	1884
Rev. Edward Clark	1865	Rev. P. Dumont	1884
Most Rev. John M. Odin	1870	Rev. Victor baron de Lisicki	1884
Rev. M. Faure	1870	Rev. C. Martiniere	1884
Rev. James Miller	1870	Rev. F. Simonisk	1885
Very Rev. Charles Padey	1871	Rev. L. Chaland	1886
Rev. P. Bouchu	1871	Rev. F. Dereu	1887
Rev. M. Stremmer	1873	Rev. J. Lowery	1887
Rev. Peter Berthlet	1873	Rev. J. L. Adelaar	1887
Very Rev. A. Farges	1873	Rev. P. Levy	1887
Rev. L. M. Planchet	1873	Rev. C. Polyzaki	1887
Very Rev. A. Gardet	1873	Rev. M. C. Polyanski	1887
Rev. Andrew Farge	1873	Rev. P. F. Sullivan	1890
Rev. A. J. Velaseos	1873	Very Rev. V. Gury, V.G.	1890
Rev. John Barlemaan	1873	Rev. J. L. Bussant	1890
Rev. E. Chapaulard	1873	Rev. P. F. Brannon	1891
Rev. John Gaillat	1873	Rev. P. Donohoe	1891
Rev. P. Krauss	1873	Rev. John LaFarge, S.J.	1891
Rev. P. Bistac	1873	Rev. P. Garvey	1892

Rev. D. Logue	1893	Rev. J. J. Gallagher	1926
Rev. J. Grabinger	1894	Very Rev. P. A. Heckman	1926
Most Rev. Claude M. Dubuis	1895	Rt. Rev. James M. Kirwin, V.G.	1926
Rev. Joseph Querat	1895	Rev. Francis Pridal	1926
Rev. J. Dumm	1895	Rev. Peter Litwora	1927
Rev. P. Kelleth	1895	Rev. M. J. Crowe	1927
Rev. Joseph N. Jacquet	1896	Rev. A. De Simone	1928
Rev. David McKiniry, S.J.	1896	Rev. M. Heintzelmann	1929
Rev. A. Laski	1897	Rev. William J. Skocek	1929
Most Rev. P. Dufal	1898	Rev. M. P. McSorley	1929
Rev. Bruno Walter	1899	Rev. Emil L. Fleury	1929
Rev. T. Keany	1900	Rev. J. A. Kelly	1930
Rev. F. T. Tobin	1903	Rev. F. Nona	1930
Rev. P. Odilo	1903	Rev. S. Spinneweber	1931
Rev. V. Chlapik	1904	Rev. Thomas Finn	1931
Rev. C. J. G. Lowery	1904	Rev. P. M. Lennartz	1932
Rev. T. P. Bresson	1905	Rev. John J. Harte	1932
Rev. J. J. Costello, C.S.B.	1906	Rev. F. X. Pruss	1932
Rev. John Keuler	1906	Rev. Jan E. Kalas	1933
Rev. Anthony Kripajitis	1907	Rt. Rev. George T. Walsh	1933
Rev. Joseph Legardeur	1909	Rev. Otto Niekamp	1933
Rev. R. Drohan, C.S.B.	1909	Rev. Bernard Lee	1934
Rev. J. Chromcik	1910	Rev. B. C. Pfiffner	1934
Rev. A. Badelon	1911	Rev. Henry Rops	1934
Rev. A. Maury	1911	Rev. Paul Puigserver, T.O.R.	1934
Rev. M. Mojedo	1911	Rev. Thomas C. Healy	1934
Very Rev. John B. Weimer	1911	Rev. George A. Bauer	1935
Rev. C. M. Thion	1912	Rev. Christopher Precker	1935
Rev. Piere C. Saint-Onge	1913	Rev. P. J. Walsh, S.S.J.	1935
Rev. Thomas Hennessy	1913	Rev. J. B. O'Leary	1936
Rev. George Montreuil	1914	Rev. Martin F. Collins	1936
Rev. John M. Haughran	1915	Rev. David M. Ortez, O.M.I.	1938
Rev. Anthony Truchard	1915	Rev. Thomas Banfield	1938
Rev. F. M. Huhm	1915	Rev. John J. Lyons, S.S.J.	1938
Rev. D. F. Berberich	1916	Rev. George Apel	1939
Rev. William Marr, C.S.C.	1916	Rev. P. J. O'Reilly, C.S.C.	1939
Rev. Peter Bienemann	1916	Rt. Rev. J. A. Pelnar	1940
Very Rev. J. C. Magnan, O.M.I.	1918	Rev. Daniel Leahy	1940
Rev. M. Shay	1918	Rev. Paul F. Nemece	1940
Rev. William J. Lee	1918	Rev. Theodore Drees	1940
Most Rev. Nicholas A. Gallagher	1918	Rev. Joseph Hanak	1941
Rev. Michael Crowe	1920	Rt. Rev. I. J. Szymanski	1941
Rev. Joseph I. Klein	1920	Rev. Kasper Kacer	1942
Rev. Francis Machan	1920	Rev. John Leahy	1942
Rev. T. A. Bily	1921	Rev. Robert Frei	1943
Rev. Charles King, S.J.	1921	Rev. Thomas F. Hogan	1943
Rev. W. Demel	1922	Rev. Michael Munar, T.O.R.	1943
Rev. James H. Moran	1922	Rev. Innocent Raska	1944
Rev. M. J. O'Callahan	1924	Rev. John S. Murphy	1945

Rev. Michael I. Hurley	1946
Rev. A. G. Gratten	1946
Rev. James Anstatt	
Rev. John J. Casserly	1947

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Priests of the Galveston Diocese—1947

Secular

Most Rev. C. E. Byrne, D. D.
 Right Rev. E. A. Kelly, P.A., V.G.
 Right Rev. Louis J. Reicher, P.A.
 Right Rev. D. P. O'Connell
 Right Rev. M. S. Chataignon
 Right Rev. J. B. Gleissner
 Right Rev. J. A. Rapp
 Right Rev. Jacob Schnetzer
 Right Rev. George A. Wilhelm
 Right Rev. James T. Fleming, S.T.D., J.C.D.
 Right Rev. Joseph A. Valenta
 Very Rev. Joseph Kunc
 Very Rev. John Vanicek
 Very Rev. George B. Black
 Very Rev. J. T. Moriarity
 Very Rev. John J. Kearns
 Rev. George Beck
 Rev. Joseph P. Walsh
 Rev. Joseph P. Dazio
 Rev. A. M. Maechler
 Rev. John A. Ruddy
 Rev. L. A. Sampson
 Rev. Patrick J. Hickey
 Rev. A. W. Raye
 Rev. George Rhein
 Rev. N. Domanski
 Rev. Christopher J. Martin
 Rev. Dennis Kennedy
 Rev. Ernest F. Michalka
 Rev. Nicholas Perusina
 Rev. D. Viola
 Rev. E. A. Holub
 Rev. Arthur J. Crann
 Rev. Stanislaus L. Kmiecik
 Rev. Charles Weisnerowski
 Rev. Timothy J. Valenta
 Rev. Edward Matocha
 Rev. Basil Bravi
 Rev. Peter Villani
 Rev. Michael J. O'Regan
 Rev. V. A. Svreck

Rev. George J. Duda
 Rev. John D. Wesolek
 Rev. Ignatius J. Valenta
 Rev. Thomas M. Cemon
 Rev. Charles J. Kunc
 Rev. Frank J. Dobias
 Rev. Thomas A. Carney
 Rev. Frank A. Lagana
 Rev. E. C. Fowler
 Rev. Jerome T. Vitek
 Rev. Anthony A. Gorek
 Rev. Frank L. Matustik
 Rev. Francis D. Urbanowsky
 Rev. Joseph J. Coffey
 Rev. Edward Geiser
 Rev. Thomas Matl
 Rev. Lad Klimicek
 Rev. Henry O. Gottschalk
 Rev. George Tydlacka
 Rev. Bernard J. Marino
 Rev. Bernard Roemer
 Rev. Hiram Eastland
 Rev. Anton J. Frank
 Rev. Herman J. Vincent
 Rev. John F. Lane
 Rev. J. J. Davis
 Rev. William J. Kennelly
 Rev. John A. Cummings
 Rev. Joseph P. Sullivan
 Rev. George Rabroker
 Rev. Peter S. Harnett
 Rev. Paul A. Fee
 Rev. Leo John Price
 Rev. Hugh Kearns
 Rev. Thomas O'Sullivan
 Rev. Robert A. Fuchs
 Rev. J. J. Polansky
 Rev. John Cassata
 Rev. Cornelius Flynn
 Rev. Martin N. Enderle
 Rev. E. K. Fulkerson
 Rev. James P. McCarthy
 Rev. Bruno M. Skweres
 Rev. Robert J. Gradel
 Rev. Matthew J. Daly
 Rev. John P. Campbell
 Rev. J. J. Tortorice
 Rev. Henry Parmentier
 Rev. Marcel C. Notzon

Rev. John D. Connolly
 Rev. James A. Nelson
 Rev. William H. Brooks
 Rev. Dennis J. Kelso
 Rev. S. A. Zientek
 Rev. Andrew DeSlatte
 Rev. Henry Dillon, S.T.D., S.S.L., Ph.D.
 Rev. Vincent M. Harris, J.C.L.
 Rev. Carl Kermiet
 Rev. Victor Di Primeo
 Rev. Paul Michalka
 Rev. Nunzio LaRocca
 Rev. Henry T. Schroeder
 Rev. Ben Holub
 Rev. John P. Witucki
 Rev. A. V. Didner
 Rev. Thomas Prendergast
 Rev. F. B. Hardy
 Rev. Joseph Klobouk
 Rev. Max Budnik
 Rev. George Berberich
 Rev. Joseph Berberich
 Rev. John M. Cody
 Rev. A. L. O'Connell
 Rev. Fabian Stindley
 Rev. Emil Landry
 Rev. H. A. Drouilhet
 Rev. Martin Bordages
 Rev. John C. Perusina
 Rev. J. M. Kirwin
 Rev. M. J. Leahy
 Rev. Joseph P. O'Sullivan
 Rev. Frank M. Schanzer
 Rev. Cornelius P. Sullivan
 Rev. Anthony J. Nicholson
 Rev. Jerome T. Tydlacka
 Rev. James W. Kveton
 Rev. J. K. Reybaud
 Rev. Lawrence Kramer
 Rev. Stephen P. Brown
 Rev. Alois Pavelka
 Rev. P. J. O'Reilly
 Rev. William Roach
 Rev. John J. Roach
 Rev. John T. Geiser
 Rev. F. A. Bielamowicz
 Rev. Florence J. O'Connor
 Rev. E. A. Braden
 Rev. Aloysius W. Nesvadba

Rev. E. J. Polcak
 Rev. George F. Doskocil
 Rev. Robert P. Schertz
 Rev. Joseph P. Coll
 Rev. Francis Klinkacek
 Rev. Paul C. Pieri
 Rev. Francis J. Klass
 Rev. Ralph J. Diefenbach
 Rev. Thomas A. Ryan
 Rev. Louis J. LeBlanc
 Rev. George T. Koen
 Rev. Francis Connor
 Rev. James Quinlan
 Rev. Joseph G. Robinson
 Rev. Joseph K. Schneider
 Rev. George Elmendorf
 Rev. Michael J. Murray
 Rev. John J. O'Reilly
 Rev. Homer Perkins
 Rev. T. T. Cronin

Holy Cross Fathers

Rev. Thomas J. Culhane, C.S.C.
 Rev. Thomas F. Curran, C.S.C.
 Rev. Eugene L. Dore, C.S.C.
 Rev. Clement H. Funke, C.S.C.
 Rev. J. R. McAllister, C.S.C.
 Rev. Andrew Mulreany, C.S.C.
 Rev. Thomas D. Richards, C.S.C.
 Rev. James Ryan, C.S.C.
 Rev. Frederick Schmidt, C.S.C.
 Rev. F. R. Weber, C.S.C.

Dominicans

Rev. Clement M. Breen, O.P.
 Rev. R. D. Groggins, O.P.
 Rev. P. B. Pendis, O.P.
 Rev. F. L. Vander Heyden, O.P.

Passionist Fathers

Rev. Bartholomew Adler, C.P.
 Rev. Aloysius Dowling, C.P., Superior
 Rev. George Jungles, C.P.

Society of the Divine Word

Rev. Lawrence Dudink, S.V.D.

Franciscan Fathers

Very Rev. John Domenge, T.O.R.
 Rev. William Buades, T.O.R.
 Rev. Anthony Frontera, T.O.R.

Vincentian Fathers

Rev. Edward J. Furlong, C.M.

Oblate Fathers

Rev. Clementine Ayala, O.M.I.
Rev. Edward F. Brauman, O.M.I.
Rev. John Busch, O.M.I.
Rev. James Conway, O.M.I.
Rev. T. Cuevas, O.M.I.
Rev. Francis F. Decker, O.M.I.
Rev. James Delaney, O.M.I.
Rev. Nicholas Diez, O.M.I.
Rev. Frank Duffy, O.M.I.
Rev. Joseph F. Dwan, O.M.I.
Rev. L. A. Ferrero, O.M.I.
Rev. George Green, O.M.I.
Rev. Thomas Griffin, O.M.I.
Rev. Maurice Jean-Joseph, O.M.I.
Rev. Peter Keane, O.M.I.
Rev. J. M. Laurent, O.M.I.
Rev. Vincent Liberto, O.M.I.
Rev. Edward Murray, O.M.I.
Rev. Felix Sola, O.M.I.

Basilian Fathers

Rev. C. M. Allnoch, C.S.B.
Rev. J. V. Burke, C.S.B.
Rev. E. E. Burns, C.S.B.
Rev. J. Collins, C.S.B.
Rev. J. W. Dwyer, C.S.B.
Rev. James Embser, C.S.B.
Very Rev. V. J. Fullerton, C.S.B.
Very Rev. Vincent Guinan, C.S.B.
Rev. Lawrence Lacey, C.S.B.
Rev. Robert E. Lamb, C.S.B.
Rev. Stanley M. Lynch, C.S.B.
Rev. E. P. Magee, C.S.B.
Rev. F. J. McCarty, C.S.B.
Rev. A. J. McLean, C.S.B.
Rev. Joseph U. Meyers, C.S.B.
Rev. F. L. Murphy, C.S.B.
Rev. W. J. Murphy, C.S.B.
Rev. W. M. Murphy, C.S.B.
Rev. Austin O'Brien, C.S.B.
Rev. R. O'Loughlin, C.S.B.
Rev. Thomas P. O'Rourke, C.S.B.
Rev. M. A. Record, C.S.B.
Rev. Norbert O. Reuss, C.S.B.

Rev. William Sheehan, C.S.B.
Rev. Walter V. Sullivan, C.S.B.
Very Rev. Joseph B. Walsh, C.S.B.
Rev. James F. Wilson, C.S.B.

Josephite Fathers

Rev. Adelard Auclair, S.S.J.
Rev. Adam Bellard, S.S.J.
Rev. William H. Clancy, S.S.J.
Rev. Narcise P. Denis, S.S.J.
Rev. John J. Doyle, S.S.J.
Rev. James Faharty, S.S.J.
Rev. James Finegan, S.S.J.
Rev. James Faharty, S.S.J.
Very Rev. George J. Hanks, S.S.J.
Rev. Donald Jacobs, S.S.J.
Rev. Anthony A. Keil, S.S.J.
Rev. Michael McCormack, S.S.J.
Rev. Henry J. Offer, S.S.J.
Rev. Francis L. Whearty, S.S.J.
Rev. John A. Wilson, S.S.J.

Paulist Fathers

Rev. Aloysius J. Burggraff, C.S.P.
Rev. Alvin R. Burggraff, C.S.P.
Rev. Edward J. McDonald, C.S.P.
Rev. Raymond J. Prindiville, C.S.P.
Rev. Thomas Tierney, C.S.P.

Missionary Fathers of LaSalette

Rev. Paul Denis, M.S.
Rev. Walter Fraher, M.S.
Rev. Thomas Nolan, M.S.
Rev. Walter Rival, M.S.
Rev. John Rohrman, M.S.
Rev. James J. Shahrighian, M.S.
Rev. Louis A. Van Dane, M.S.

Augustinian Fathers

Rev. P. Fernandez, O.S.A.
Rev. Basil F. Fresno, O.S.A.
Rev. Toribio Onate, O.S.A.
Rev. Eulogio Rodriguez, O.S.A.

Redemptorist Fathers

Rev. John C. Bauer, C.S.S.R.
Rev. Arthur Patton, C.S.S.R.
Rev. John Zimmer, C.S.S.R.

Galveston Diocese 100 YEARS AGO

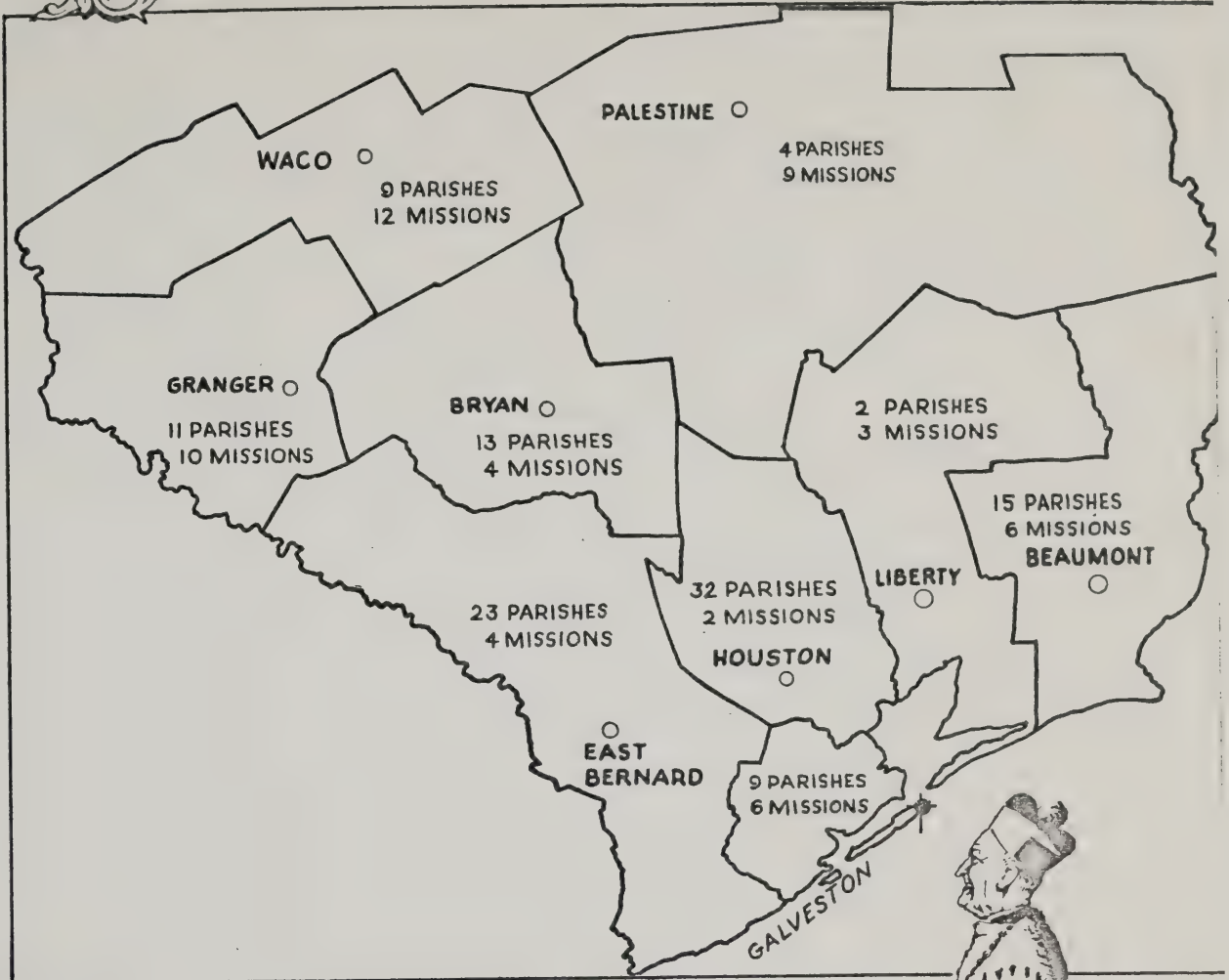
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Diocese of Galveston - today



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